The Muscogee Nation News

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Economic development among legislative priorities for twelfth session

OKMULGEE — Economic development, education, additional funding for contract health, and housing issues are among legislative priorities for the 12th session of the Muscogee National Council, according to Speaker Wilbur Gouge and the Council committee chairs.

The National Council has held off on legislative action in its first month in order to establish legislative priorities and assess pending legislation from the 11th session. This period has also offered the new members time to orient themselves.

"January will give new Council members the opportunity to get familiar with the process of legislation...their role[s] as Council

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State of the Nation address to be delivered in January

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief R. Perry will deliver the annual State of the Na-

see **STATE**..., page 3

photo by Stephanie Barnett

Okfuskee District Representative Nancy Watson, Creek District Rep. Roger Barnett, with son, Eco, and Creek District Rep. Phyllis Warrington watch as votes for National Council Speaker are tallied and projected onto the Independent Agencies (Mound) Auditorium wall following their swearing in ceremony held Jan. 5 . Pictured in back are: Tukvpvtce District Rep. Dwayne Lowe; McIntosh District Rep. Thomas McIntosh; and McIntosh District Rep. Wilbur Gouge. Gouge defeated Okmulgee District Rep. Sandra Peters 21-5 for his second consecutive term as speaker. Tulsa District Rep. Robert Hufft and Wagoner District Rep. Richard Berryhill were reelected to positions of second speaker and sergeant at arms, respectively. Gouge's election marks his third session to serve as Speaker.

Muscogee People

Citizen and family uses archery to guide and educate youth; helps others set goals and achieve them

by Gerald Wofford

It has been a modern stereotypical idea that Native Americans are naturally great archers. But the skill of archery is a God-given talent and must be developed, regardless of color.

Mark West is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen who has been trained in the art of bows and arrows and skillful archery shooting.

In 1972, West was recognized as a national, international and Olympic competitor archer and won at several of the competitions. West would follow in the footsteps of his father, William, who was a world champion archer.

Aaron, Mark, Mark Jr. and Charlene West

While training for various competitions, West saw the importance of setting goals, the commitment and the importance of focusing to reach those goals, and also the need for a healthy life-style to achieve them.

West, along with his wife, Charlene, and sons, Mark and Aaron, have created West's Archery, a nonprofit organization. In the beginning, the organization reached out to kids in the southern

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Muscogee sisters from Broken Arrow and Coweta celebrating 100th and 90th birthdays

BROKEN ARROW — Nora Thomas Nelson and Katie Thomas Smith are celebrating their 100th and 90th birthdays at Thomas Community Church on Jan. 26.

Supper will begin at 3:30 p.m., followed by church services and singing at 6 p.m. Attending churches include: Bemo Baptist; Broken Arrow United Methodist; Cedar

Nora and Katie Thomas

please see **SISTERS**..., page 10

Letters to the editor

Citizen thanks fellow Maskoke singers

Editor:

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for all the Maskoke singers who devoted their time and effort to make the Council House Christmas of Lights Parade in Okmulgee such a great success. Your voices blended beautifully during the singing and there was much praise from the public.

Your dedication and willingness to learn is to be applauded. I hope that the words and tunes that you learned will now be taught to others through you. To those who practiced and weren't able to make the grand finale, you too were a great blessing.

May the good Lord be with each and everyone of you. For as it was stated over and over at the parade — Jesus is the reason for the season. God bless the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. *Mvto.*

Alfred Berryhill, Okmulgee

Woman receives good treatment at hospital

Editor:

Most of the time the only things you hear or read about Creek Nation Community Hospital and staff are negative.

I recently spent two full weeks in the hospital with pneumonia and several other things. I just want to let you know how wonderful the staff was to me — from the doctors, nurses, lab technicians, kitchen staff, housekeeping, and anyone else I may have overlooked.

Both me and my husband, Jack, have been going to Okemah for medical care for years and have always had good care from both the clinic and hospital staff. I just wanted to let you know that not everyone has negative thoughts about the hospital staff. Thank you for your time.

Gayle Bevenue, Okmulgee

Man seeks World War II experiences of Indians

Editor:

I am an American Indian researching the contribution of American Indians and other indigenous peoples during World War II.

I would like to correspond with any American Indian elder who, as either an adult or child, lived through WWII and has memories to share. I am also looking for duplicate photographs of Indian people during the war years — perhaps wearing a uniform or on location at a defense industry job, etc.

I am interested in American Indian people who served in the military, Red Cross, Civil Air Patrol, Merchant Marine, USO, or with any civil defense organization. I am also interested in American Indians who were employed in defense work and Indian women who replaced a men in traditional male occupations during 1940s.

Individuals may write: Robert J. Clark, P.O. Box 685, Collinsville, Ill. 62234.

Thank you for any response.

Robert J. Clark, Collinsville, Illinois

Observance coordinator thanks supporters

Editor:

The Muscogee Nation Veterans Day Observance was a great event because of the participation and support of some Muscogee communities.

The Committee of Osten would like to thank the following for their support: Danny Roberts and Gerald Wofford for chairs and audio equipment; Thomas Yahola and the Mvskoke Honor Guard; Rev. Jerry Byrd, the master of ceremonies, Patrick Moore, the keynote speaker; Lynda Waldroop for her tribute to the armed forces; Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation Pearl Thomas for her excellent singing; Phillip Coon, Charlie Coker, Roman Watashe, Susan Barnett, and Willie Randall, wreathbearers; and last, but not least, our always accommodating Second Chief A.D. Ellis for his welcome and recognition of honored guests.

Special thanks are offered to the Duck Creek, Wilson, Checotah, Eufaula, Muskogee, and Tulsa Indian communities for their financial support. When it seemed no funds were forthcoming, Coon donated $50. Lyle Deere, a participant in the program, was also instrumental in securing funds from Muskogee Indian Community. The beautiful ladies that served the refreshments were: Rita Williams; Norma Jean Bible; Mary Ann Kane; and Dorothy Rine.

Again, thanks to all who supported the tribal Veteran's Day observance.

Jorene Coker, Preston

Editor's note: Jorene Coker is a member of the Committee of Osten.

November District Court filings

Civil Actions:

- Royal Finance vs. George Bell, small claims
- Royal Finance vs. Teresa Jennings, small claims
- Royal Finance vs. Jerry Wittman, small claims

Protective Orders:

- Gina Green vs. James Watashe Jr., ex-parte
- Delveta Bell vs. Jackie Dignan, ex-parte
- Tina Jack vs. Angela and Darren Fullmore, ex-parte
- Jennifer Jack vs. Angela and Darren Fullmore, ex-parte
- Ceilla Sexton vs. Billy R. Sexton, ex-parte

please see **FILINGS...**, page 10

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Happy New Year — I hope everyone made it through the holiday season, safe and happy.

November was a busy month for my office. I don't like to travel, but there are times when tribal officials must go to support our Nation on the national scene. Such was the case in late November when I attended the 58th Annual National Congress of American Indians held Nov. 25 through 30 in Spokane, Wash. It was a very interesting week shared with approximately 3,000 Indian peoples from over 250 different tribes throughout America and Alaska. Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs **Neal McCaleb**, a native Oklahoman, should be a plus for Oklahoma tribes. Former Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs **Ross Swimmer**, another native Oklahoman, was appointed as director of the new Office of Indian Trust Transition. As director of the OITT, Swimmer will be responsible for planning and implementing the actions needed to consolidate Indian trust funds into one organization unit.

Second Chief A.D. Ellis visits with Muscogee men from the Wetumka area before Wetumka Nutrition Center's dinner for veterans. Pictured, left to right, are: Ellis; Robert Berryhill; Eugene Birdcreek; Chubby Berryhill; Jackson Harjo [standing]; Gene Harjo; Eugene Dunson; and Sonnny Lewis.

I attended veterans' programs at Tulsa Creek Indian Community, Coweta Indian Community, Wetumka Nutrition Center, and Little Cussetah Baptist Church. These church members provided a great program and all the food you could eat. We appreciate all the veterans of our nation who gave so much so that we can live and enjoy the freedom we have in America. The tribal Veterans Day Observance, held at the monument at the tribal complex grounds on Nov. 12, was very good. A thank you is extended to tribal District Court Judge **Patrick Moore** for speaking, Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation **Pearl Thomas** for singing the beautiful songs and the many others that offered their support.

In mid-November, I attended a few Thanksgiving dinners throughout Muscogee Nation. I was at Holdenville on Nov.13 and Wetumka on Nov. 14. The largest crowd was at Sapulpa Indian Community Center on Nov. 17 with a standing room only. Thanks everybody.

please see **SECOND OPINION...**, page 10

The Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at: an October 27 quarterly session; and Nov. 17 regular session.

Oct. 27 quarterly session

Absent were: **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek District; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Harley Little**, Muskogee District; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee District; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvpvtce District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved (17-0-0) Tribal Resolution 01-45, authorizing the principal chief to investigate and negotiate for the purchase of land in Okmulgee County;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Dave Lewis**; Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner, and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (18-0-0) TR 01-46, authorizing the principal chief to execute an application for membership and power purchase agreement for purchase of power with East Central Electric Cooperative;

S. Pickering arrived prior to the vote on TR 01-46, making attendance at 19 present with six absent;

• approved (18-0-0) TR 01-49, recognizing the Muscogee (Creek) Association of California;

• approved (18-0-0) TR 01-54, authorizing the principal chief to enter into a contract on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the contract on parking lots east of the Independent Agencies (mound) Building and west of the Okmulgee Child Development Center;

• approved as amended (18-0-0) TR 01-55, authorizing the principal chief to execute a contract for the purchase of real property located in Hughes county;

• approved (18-0-0) TR 01-57, authorizing the principal chief to execute the on-net service agreement with MCI Worldcom Communication Inc. for telephone services;

• approved as amended (19-0-0) TR 01-58, authorizing the principal chief to direct the field representative of the Okmulgee field office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to execute a gas pipeline easement with RKR Exploration;

Marshall arrived prior to the vote on TR 01-58, making attendance at 20 present with six absent;

• approved (19-0-0) TR 01-59, amending TR 01-51 (a tribal resolution authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into an agreement between L and L Contractors and Services, Inc. and Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo);

• approved (19-0-0) TR 01-61, approving the contract for bid #794 of the Housing Authority of Creek Nation of Oklahoma for the rehabilitation repair work on four vacant mutual help homes and approve the contract bid for #795 for the handicap accessibility to one mutual help home;

• approved as amended (19-0-0) National Council Resolution 01-05, a resolution of the National Council reestablishing the monthly mileage reimbursement for the National Council Representatives and Speaker;

• approved as amended (16-2-0) National Council Act 01-183, amending certain laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, repealing certain laws and adding new law concerning public gaming for purposes of codification in title 21 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

Lowe did not vote;

• approved (18-0-0) NCA 01-192, amending NCA 93-120, as amended by NCA 95-135, relating to the Johnson O'Malley program for kindergarten through grade 12 services and the Johnson O'Malley program for early childhood, to be codified in title 18 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

Lowe did not vote;

• approved (17-2-0) NCA 01-194, requiring that the executive director of the Creek Nation Housing Authority be

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 10

Council members receive committee assignments and set meeting times and days

OKMULGEE — Members of the 12th session of the Nation Council received committee assignments immediately after being sworn into office of Jan. 5.

The committee assignments are:

• **Human Development** — Larry Bible, chair; Judy Aaron, vice chair; Cherrah Quiett; Harley Little; Nancy Watson; and Helen Chupco;

• **Tribal Affairs** — Barbara Gillespie, chair; Sandra Turner Peters, vice chair; Jesse Kelley; Thomas McIntosh; David Lewis; and Thomas Yahola;

• **Business and Governmental** — Roger Barnett, chair; Richard Berryhill, vice chair; Robert Hufft; Phyllis Warrington; Dwayne Lowe; and Keeper Johnson; and

• **Community Services and Cultural** — George Almerigi, chair; Lola Fields, vice chair; Ron Cleghorn; Tom Pickering; David Nichols; Mae Jackson; and Sandra Golden.

Meeting times and days for the committees are: **Community Services and Cultural** — 7 p.m., second Tuesday of each month; **Human Development** — 6:30 p.m., second Thursday of each month; **Business and Governmental** — 6:30 p.m., third Thursday of each month (or the Thursday preceding the planning session date); **Tribal Affairs** — 6:30 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding the planning session date.

The monthly planning session is held at 6:30 p.m. on the Tuesday before the regular session. The regular session is normally held at 10 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of each month. The pre-agenda session begins at 9:30 a.m. Meetings are held in the National Council office located just east of the administration building on the tribal capitol complex at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

For more information, call (918) 756-8700, ext. 346.

Priorities

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members and the process that they have to go through for legislation to be effective," said Creek District Representative Roger Barnett, who is serving a second nonconsecutive term.

McIntosh District's Gouge, who was elected to a second-consecutive term as Speaker, said that economic development is at the top of his priorities as an individual member. "It may sound like I'm putting [economic development] above health, education, and housing, but you cannot have these things without economic development." Gouge expressed interest in meetings with a New York-based consultant company to discuss economic development opportunities for the tribe.

Barnett, who was elected chair of the Council's Business and Governmental Committee, said that the informal consensus of Council legislative priority appears to be economic development. He expressed specific interest in working with the tribal administration and economic development program to pursue development of the tribe's Mackey Sandbar property located in Tulsa. Referring to the undeveloped property as "Indian Country in true form," Gouge said Mackey Sandbar is prime for development. Neither Gouge or Barnett would elaborate on the nature of economic development. Gouge said the nature of development that the tribe will consider pursuing needs to be researched and agreed upon by the legislative and executive branches of tribal government first.

Tulsa District Rep. Larry Bible, who was elected Human Development Committee chair, said he would like to prioritize funding for the tribe's Head Start programs, provide more funding for scholarships, and "upgrade" all educational programs. Bible said his immediate priority as chair is to ensure that Sapulpa Head Start is operational.

Community Services and Cultural Committee Chair George Almerigi, of Okmulgee District, said that he plans to assess the health system to determine whether changes are in order. He also wants to improve contract health by getting more tribal funding to assist more clients and expedite what many Indians feel is an exhaustive process. Almerigi also expressed interest in using a lobbying firm to assist the tribe in getting more Indian health funding for the tribe and Oklahoma. He also mentioned Maskoke language revitalization as a priority. Other areas of interest for Almerigi include: recreation centers for youth and youth clubs; more autonomy for tribally chartered communities; and tribal nursing and funeral homes.

Barbara Gillespie, Tribal Affairs Committee chair, said that with the deadline for the Council's approval of the Native American Housing And Self Determination Act Program's Five Year Plan approaching, she is interested in seeing exactly were the it is in regard to meeting the housing needs of Indian peoples. Gillespie, of Wagoner District, questions whether the program is on target.

"People are having to wait and wait. I know we have to have rules and regulations, [but] there should be a better way that we can serve the people in a more timely manner."

Committee meeting dates for February are: Tribal Affairs Committee — 6:30 p.m., Feb. 12; Community Services and Cultural Committee — 7 p.m., Feb. 12; Human Development — 6:30 p.m., Feb. 14; and Business and Governmental — 6:30 p.m., Feb. 14.

Legislative action officially began on Jan. 22 with the convening of a special session of the National Council.

State

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tion address beginning at 10 a.m., Jan. 26 in the Independent Agencies (mound) Building Auditorium located on the tribal capitol complex.

Beaver will deliver an overall profile for the tribe to the National Council in accordance with the tribal Constitution.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Feb. 5 and 19;

• Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Feb. 5.

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Feb. 6 and 20.

• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Feb. 6 and 21; and

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Feb. 7 and 21.

Energy assistance may not be applied for at these regularly scheduled site visits.

Energy assistance applications being accepted

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for its tribal energy assistance and Low Income Home Energy Assistance programs until funding is depleted.

The program is currently accepting walk-in appointments from first-time applicants.

The following information is required to complete the application process:

• Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card (CDIB) or tribal citizenship card;

• Social Security card;

• income verification for each household member; and

• a heating bill in the applicant or spouse's name.

Additional information will be required for students ages 18 years or older and individuals caring for minor children other than their own.

For more information, contact the social services department at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 279.

Communications Department seeks advice of Maskoke and Euchee speakers for tribal language content for radio and print

OKMULGEE — Speakers of the Maskoke and Euchee languages are requested to attend a meeting to discuss Maskoke and Euchee language programming for radio and content for print from 1 to 4 p.m., Feb. 6

The meeting will be held in the Bureau of Indian Affairs Conference Room, Solomon McCombs (main building) Executive Office Building at the tribal capitol complex.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department has available mediums which can be used to contribute to the effort of revitalizing the Maskoke and Euchee languages. Tribal radio programming and the tribal newspaper can be used as forums for providing broadcasts in the Maskoke and Euchee languages and written Maskoke and Euchee word, said Communications Department Manager Stephanie Barnett. "I think the department can be instrumental in facilitating the development of language programming and content, but only with active involvement from speakers of the Maskoke and Euchee languages," she said. The formation of a Maskoke and Euchee language advisory committee to the Muscogee Nation Communications Department will be discussed also.

For more information, call Barnett at (918) 756-8700, ext. 312, toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979; or e-mail comm2@ocevnet.org.

Tribal vision program accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Vision program is accepting applications for its tribal and CSBG vision program for fiscal year 2002.

Applicants must reside within the State of Oklahoma and must attach copies of the following documents to completed application: tribal citizenship card; Social Security card; and

please see **NOTICES**..., page 11

Holdenville Nutrition Center Christmas dinner

Above: Muscogee tribal citizen Kenneth Deere, originally from Holdenville, visits with Barney Emarthle at the Holdenville Nutrition Center Christmas dinner and program for area elders. Deere who now resides in the Washington D.C. area, is the associate general secretary for the United Methodist Church's General Commission on Religon and Race. He is the son of longtime Holdenville area citizen Melissa Deere.

Below: Salt Creek United Methodist Church Mother Melissa Deere and Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Dawn Thompson

Left: A festive Betty TIger, Holdenville Nutrition Program cook, prepares to serve up home made rolls.

Right: Blackie , Judy, and Nathan "Wahoo" [not pictured] Buck, of the well known Buck Family gospel singing group, provided entertainment through singing Christmas songs.

Above: Salt Creek United Methodist Church elder Lizzie Bruner catches up with Holdenville elder Angel Lowe.

Education-society

Seminole citizen graduates from MIT

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Michelle Dow Keawphalouk graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in June.

She has been accepted to Harvard Medical School and is currently doing research at the National Institute of Health in Maryland.

Keawphalouk

Keawphalouk is a member of American Indian Students engineering Society and Harvard University Native American Program. Among awards she has received are: the McDermott Award; National Dean's list; National Institute of Health scholarship; and Texas Instrument Scholar. Keawphalouk is a MIT coordinator for the State of Oklahoma.

A reception was held for her in June at Holdenville Indian Community Center. Keawphalouk said that she is grateful for the support that she has received from the Muscogee Nation. She offered special thanks to Tukvpvtce District Rep. Dwayne Lowe and Okmulgee District Rep. Sandra Peters.

She is the daughter of Yotin and Clara Keawphalouk. She is the granddaughter of Hattie and the late Toby Alexander, Lamar. She belongs to the Bird Clan and is of the Muscogee and Thai descent.

Girl participates in cheerleading program

GLENPOOL — Five year old Madison Harrison participated in the first Bench Buddies Cheerleading Program, a squad consisting of four and five year olds.

Harrison

She is the daughter of Jason and Robin Harrison of Glenpool.

Harrison is the granddaughter of Ron and Della Cherry of Holdenville and Lena Rivas of Glenpool.

Muscogee boys lead warrior football team

GLENPOOL—The 2001 Mighty Might Glenpool Warriors completed a 7-1 season led by four Muscogee citizens.

Foster, McIntosh, Scott, and Harrison

Tyler Foster, Tyler Harrison, Taylor McIntosh, and Anthony Scott led the team in offense and defense production. They placed third out of their football conference which consisted of 29 area teams.

Their parents are: Mark and Georgia Foster; Jason and Robin Harrison; Kelly Elrod and Paul McIntosh; and Calvin and Robin Scott, all of Glenpool.

Summer Youth program participants complete course

OKMULGEE — Five participants of the 2001 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Summer Youth Employment Program recently completed a new job readiness course.

T. Jack, Factor, Morgan, Fry, Compton, and J. Jack

The class, was offered through the Muscogee Nation Workforce Investment Act Program, is designed to help parenting youth enter the workforce. Norene Fry instructed the three-part course hosted by Green Country Technology Center. The six hour a day course focused on life skills, math, reading, and computer skills. Participants were offered the opportunity to learn skills necessary to obtain an entry level position in a business environment or pursue further career training. Each student set goals for their life and planned, step-by-step how to achieve them.

Classes were held Sept. 17 through Dec. 5. A graduation ceremony was held with an address from keynote speaker A.D. Ellis, second chief, and ended with an emotional testimonial from each student, describing how the course had changed her life. Students were: Crystal Compton; Jessina Factor; Jennifer Jack; Tina Jack; and Kristi Morgan.

More job readiness courses to be held at other locations within Muscogee Nation are under consideration.

For more information, call (918) 756-8700 or toll free — 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 620.

Accomplishments

Citizen participates in 24-mile flag run

CORDELL — When Galen Cloud volunteered to run a few miles of a course in which an American flag was being carried from Boston to Los Angeles, he didn't know that he would end up running nearly a marathon.

He thought he was going to run a few miles, but was recruited to run 12 miles when organizers fell short of runners. After reaching the 12 mile-point he agreed to run another 12 miles because the next relay did not show.

Cloud, 29, said that he had only trained sporadically to prepare for what he thought would be just a few miles.

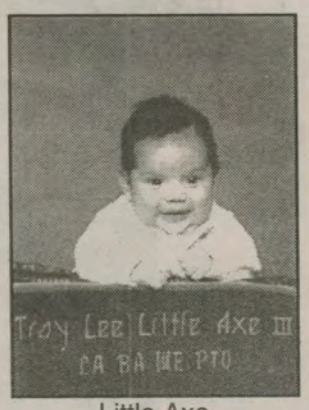
Cloud was one of few American Indians participating in the run — which was carried across the country symbolically to complete the journeys of passenger airliners that were hijacked on Sept. 11.

Cloud is a correctional officer at Diamondback Correctional Facility. He is the son of Lucy and the late Daniel Cloud Jr., Bristow. Cloud is the grandson of the late Charley and Nellie Jones, Bristow, and the great-grandson of the late Harley and Lizzie Roberts, Okemah.

Birth

Troy Lee Little Axe III

MIAMI — Troy Lee Little Axe III was born Sept. 9 to Troy and Claudia Little Axe on their second wedding anniversary.



Little Axe

He weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20 and one half inches in length.

The baby's maternal grandparents are Claude and Belinda Tyner of Tulsa. Paternal grandparents are Troy and Joanne Little Axe of Bartlesville.

He is the great-grandson of: the late Julia Harjo Byrd; the late Wiliam O. and Vera Jamison; and John and the late Lillian Little Axe, Norman.

Nuptials

Citizen marries and makes home in Arizona

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz.— Cecil Watson Jr. and Sharon Denise Claw were married on Nov. 10 at El Nathan Conference Grounds by Rev. Bill Gowey.

Mr. and Mrs. Watson and daughter, Tenetke

The bride was given in marriage by her parents, Danny and Rose Claw, of Kaibeto, Ariz. The matron of honor was Shannon Johnson, sister of the bride.

The best man was Katcv Larney, brother of the groom. The ringbearer was Spokogee Watson of Holdenville, nephew of the groom and the flower girl was Sarah Franks of Holdenville, niece of the groom.

Parents of the groom are Abbie and Edwin Larney of Holdenville and Cecil Watson Sr. of Talihina. He is the grandson of Hattie Alexander of Lamar.

The couple are making their home in Flagstaff with their daughter, Tenetke Nizhoni Watson.

Community News

OCMA Christmas dinner report

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association held its first Christmas dinner on Dec. 21 with 100 people in attendance.

Attending from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was Second Chief A.D. Ellis and his wife, Gail. Tulsa District Representative-elect Ron Cleghorn and Okfuskee District Rep.-elect Nancy Watson were also in attendance.

Ellis reported on Muscogee (Creek) Nation information regarding: enrollment statistics; the population of elders; the number of tribal tags sold since June; the number of nutrition programs and clients being served by them; homes that have been and are currently under construction; low rent apartments; election board; the tribal budget for 2002; tribal employees in Okmulgee and throughout Muscogee Nation; and the number of tribally chartered communities.

"That was good information for us in Oklahoma City. Our program is reserved for anyone that comes from the Muscogee Nation. We would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Ellis and the representatives that attended our dinner," said George Bunny, OCMA member-at-large."

Muscogee Cre

Twelfth Session Takes Oath

Above: National Council Legislative Clerk Jennifer Edwards assists District Court Judge Patrick Moore with counting votes for speaker

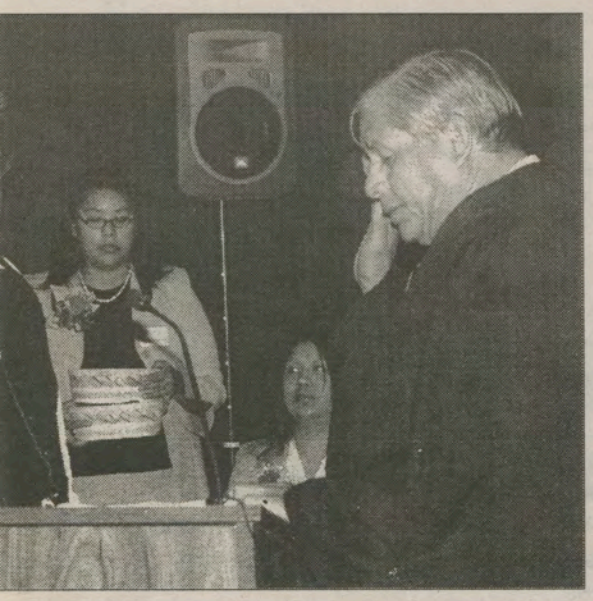
Starting counter clockwise from the top center photo:

- Gail and Second Chief A.D. Ellis and Mariam and Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver
- Former Tulsa District Representative Irene Cleghorn, son, Robert, of Tulsa and tribal citizen Dorothy Burden of Wetumka
- Muskogee District Rep. Helen Chupco being sworn in for the 12th time
- Okmulgee District Rep. Sandra Turner Peters and escort, Rev. Harry Long of Muskogee — tribal citizen Fannie Barnett of Dewar is pictured in the foreground
- Supreme Court Justice Amos McNac swears-in McIntosh District Rep. Wilbur Gouge to the position of speaker
- Muskogee District Rep. Harley Little addresses the crowd with regard to his recent bout with cancer — pictured in the background is Wagoner District Rep. Barbara Gillespie
- Tallahassee Methodist Church Deacon Alfred Berryhill delivers the dismissal song and benediction
- National Council escorts Rev. Long, Shirley Almerigi of Okmulgee and Martha Johnson of Morris

Center: The 12th Session of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council takes the oath

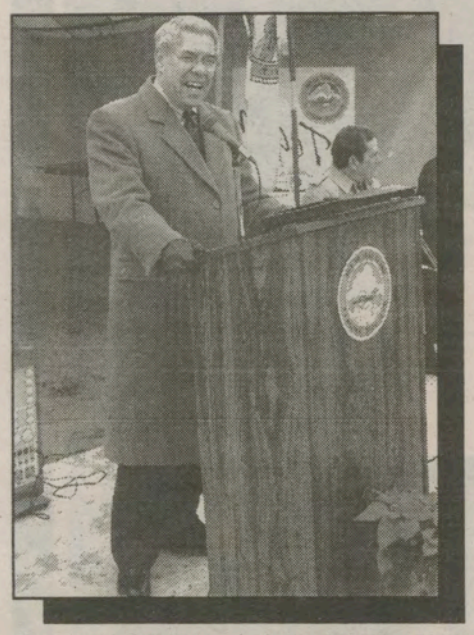
photos by Stephanie Barnett

k National Council



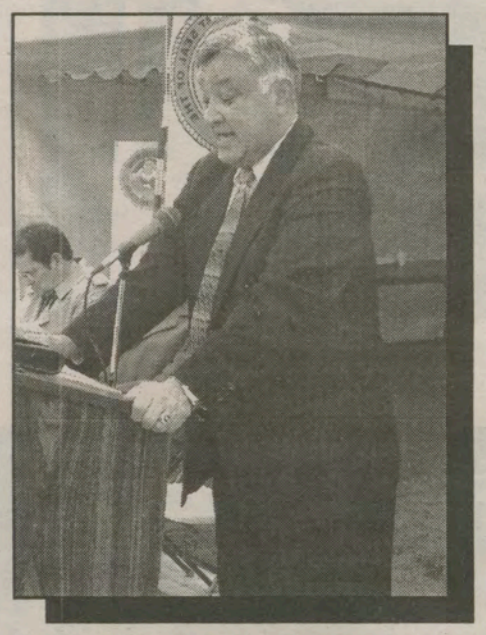
Ground breaking for Muscogee Creek Nation Bureau of Indian Affairs Office Building

Dec. 14th



Assistant Secretary of the Interior Neal McCaleb addresses the crowd of ??? that were in attendance at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bureau of Indian Affairs Office Building groundbreaking.

Breaking ground at the construction site were: Earl King, Tulsa District Representative to the National Council; Bill Fife, Okfuskee District Rep.; Tom Pickering, McIntosh District Rep.; Ben Chaney, tribal economic development coordinator; R. Perry Beaver, principal chief; Wilbur Gouge, National Council Speaker; Eddie Scott, chief executive officer of building contractor SGS; A.D. Ellis, second chief; Jesse Kelley, Tulsa District Rep.; McCaleb; Dennis Springwater, acting BIA Muskogee area director; adn Anderson Hale and Sandra Peters, both Okmulgee District Reps.



Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver

photos by Gerald Wofford

Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo's "Rumble by the River"

Dec. 14th

ESPN boxing analyst and "Let's Get It On" Boxing Announcer Al Bernstein and Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver

Heavyweights Gilbert Vera, left, and Alvin Manley stand toe-to-toe. Manley won by technical knockout in the fifth round.

"Let's Get It On" Promotions Director and Boxing Judge Millks Lane strikes a pose with Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo Manager Phil Glass

OLLIE CAREY

CHECOTAH — Funeral services for Ollie Mae Bittle Carey were held Sept. 6 at the First Baptist Church in Checotah with Revs. Wayne Brown, Bill Sherril, and Harry Dodd officiating.

Carey was born June 13, 1925 in Pierce to J.L. and Bessie Broadnax Bittle. She graduated as salutatorian from Pierce High School. She graduate from Northeastern Teacher's College with the most outstanding record and a bachelor of arts degree in education, majoring in mathematics. She taught school until 1951 when she married Raymond Carey at Checotah.

She joined the church at age 12 and was active in church work, having taught different classes all of her life. She was teaching senior adult women at the time her illness began. She was also involved in: WMU funeral service committee; vacation bible school; girls auxiliary; and many church activities while an active member of the First Baptist Church for 48 years. She was involved in numerous community organizations including: a founding member of the Katy Depot Museum; a member of the McIntosh County Homemakers Club; Girl Scout leader; book reviewer; and a member of Chapter BX of P.E.O. since 1963.

Survivors include: her husband of the home; two sons, Dr. John Christopher Carey of Phoenix, Ariz. and Mitchell Porter Carey of Edmond; two grandsons; two granddaughters; four brothers, Jim Bittle of Checotah, Robert Bittle of Tulsa, Don Bittle of Bixby, and Bill Bittle of Preston; three sisters, Norma Winter of Bartlesville, Dr. Cheryl Bittle of Portland, Ore. and Ina Bittle; numerous neices and nephews and a host of friends.

Pallbearers include: Don, Jay, Jim, Robert, and Bill Bittle; Dr. Bill Winter; Johnny Carey; and Ed Working.

Honorary pallbearers were the Senior Ladies Sunday School Class.

Interment was at Greenlawn Cemetery.

JACOB ELLIS

OKMULGEE — Graveside services for Jacob B. Ellis were held on Dec. 7 at Bald Hill Cemetery.

He was born on Oct. 14, 1918 in Natura to Abner Doolie and Nellie Bruner Ellis. He died on Dec. 6 .

Ellis was an inventor, holding three patents. He was a rancher and farmer and was retired from a position as a heavy equipment operator for the City of Tulsa. He was an "A Class" World War II veteran, a graduate of Oklahoma State Technical School, an artist and instructor, counselor, and friend to many.

He is survived by: his wife, Laurabelle Elizabeth; son, Michael Anthony; and siblings, Lillian, Willie, Richard, Dorothy, Nellie, Pandora and Andrew.

EUGENE HARJO SR.

DUSTIN — Funeral services for Eugene Harjo Sr. were held Nov. 23 at Thewarley Methodist Church with Revs. Malcolm Tiger and Alex Lowe officiating.

He was born in Talihina on April 7, 1945 to Waddie and Linda Johnson Harjo. He was raised in the Ragtown area and attended Moss School where he was active in baseball. After leaving Moss he attended Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas where he played football and graduated in 1964. Eugene enlisted in the U.S. Army after graduation and served his country from 1964 to 1966. After his discharge he was employed as a welder at various companies until the opening of General Motors where he was employed until his retirement.

He married Linda Gouge and they made their home in Oklahoma City for 35 years. He was also an active member of Thewarley Methodist Church where he held the office of trustee and chairperson. He devoted his time to this church by doing various tasks that needed to be done at the church. He also supported Alabama/Quassarte in many ways.

Harjo was an avid University of Oklahoma sports fan. He coached his son's little league team and was a football chain gang for Crooked Oak High School while his sons participated in football years. He also stayed abreast of Moss High School basketball and softball teams' standing during its state play-offs.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; one brother, Marcey Harjo; and two sisters, Diane Harjo Lowe and Lydia Harjo Blueback.

Survivors include: son, Eugene Harjo Jr.; three daughters, Teresa Notah, Callie Garcia, and Jessica Stewart, all of Oklahoma City; eight grandchildren; four sisters, Anna Smith and Eliza Barnett both of Wetumka, Donna Harjo of Mt. Juliet, Tenn. and Florence Atchico of Harrah; two brothers, Willie Harjo of Chelsea and Jimmy Harjo of Wetumka; several nieces and nephews; and a host of relatives and friends.

Pallbearers include: Kevin Atchico; Bear McClain; Legus Barnett; Roger Butler; Jack Yargee; and Harry Harjo.

Honorary pallbearers were: George Cook; Bobby Yargee; Roley Johnson; Curtis Smith; Turner Scott; and John King.

Interment was at the Johnson Family Cemetery.

MARGARET HARJO

HANNA — Funeral services for Margaret Ann Harjo were held Nov. 17 at Hillabee Baptist Church with Revs. Gene Harjo and Robert Berryhill officiating.

Harjo was born on Oct. 4, 1936 in Hanna to Sampson and Roseanna Brown Hill. She married Jackson Harjo on June 25, 1954 in Oklahoma City.

She enjoyed sewing baby blankets and enjoyed attending stomp dances. She also enjoyed spending time with and taking care of her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Jackson and John Hill.

Survivors include: husband, of the home; daughter, Patricia Ann Harjo of Wetumka; three sons, Silas Hill of Wetumka, Jackson Harjo Jr. of Horton, Kan., and Marcus Wayne Harjo of Tecumseh; two brothers, Wilson Hill and Benjamin Hill both of Oklahoma City; five great-grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Pallbearers were: James Buckner; Victor Davis; George Factor; John Hill; Jackson Hill; Brian Postoak; Billy Don Scott; and James Shaw.

Interment was at Hillabee Cemetery.

LEE ROY JOSHUA

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Lee Roy Joshua were held Oct. 12 at Belvin Baptist Church with Revs. David Deere, Sonny Bear, Malcolm Tiger, and John Buckner officiating.

He was born on Oct. 11, 1937 in Holdenville to Edmond, Sr. and Dorothy Tiger Joshua.

Joshua was a lifetime resident of the Okmulgee area and attended the Many Springs Baptist Church in Holdenville. He was of Creek and Seminole descent and was a self taught artist, working with oils, pastels, tempra, watercolors, and sculpted in bronze. His art work is on display in many museums and galleries throughout Oklahoma and various states, such as: Oklahoma Historical Museum, Oklahoma City; Creek Council House Museum, Okmulgee; Five Civilized Tribes Museum, Muskogee; Red Cloud Museum, Pine Ridge, S.D.; Tagachady Gallery, Chatanooga, Tenn.; Elaine Horwich Galleries, Scottsdale, Ariz.; White Buffalo Gallery, Wichita, Kan.; Oklahoma Art Gallery, Oklahoma City; and Two Feathers Gallery in Siloam Springs, Ark.

His works have received awards in the following art shows: Five Civilized Tribes Museum; Red Cloud Art Show, Pine Ridge, South Dakota; Heard Museum Guild, Phoenix, Ariz.; Scottsdale National Art Show, Scottsdale, Ariz.; Albuquerque State Fair, Albuquerque, N.M.; and Intertribal Indian Ceremonial, Gallup, N.M.

He is survived by: his wife, Lucille of the home; Lee Joshua Jr.; Lloyd and Lawanna Beaver; Richard and Betty Beaver all of Okmulgee; Ward and Laura Beaver of Morris; Sherri Joshua; Siadienia Joshua; Betty and Stanley Harjo; Leslie and Rick Powell all of Okmulgee; Regina Tiger of Shawnee; Edmond Joshua Jr. of Wetumka; Randall Joshua of Tulsa; Martin Joshua of Oklahoma City; Travis Joshua of Tulsa; George Joshua of Wewoka; Betty Howell of Konawa; Susie Joshua and Ann Lou Joshua, both of Dallas, Texas; Mary Factor, Bonita Blackburn, Janetta Joshua, and Mary Louise Martin, all of Tulsa.

Pallbearers include: Steve Mangum; Rick Powell; B.J. Waggnor; Sammy Howell; Mike Tiger; and W.E. Howell.

Honorary pallbearers include: Stanley Harjo; Sam Beaver Jr.; Albert Tyson; Anthony Beaver; Mitchell Dean Littlehead; Louis Scott Jr.

Interment was at Tallahasse Methodist Church Cemetery.

ISAAC STEWART

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Isaac DeVaughn Stewart were held Dec. 6 at Buckeye Baptist Church with Rev. Wayne Harjo officiating.

He was born on Nov. 28, 2001 to Kelly Stewart and Denise Hicks in Oklahoma City and died the same day.

Preceding him in death include: maternal grandparents, Norma Jean Hicks and Wessie Grammer; paternal great grandmother, Jeanne Vee Richmond; paternal great-great grandparents, L.T. and Rosalee Piggie.

Survivors include: parents, half-brother, Carlos Stewart; half-sister, Celeste Stewart, both of Depew; maternal grandfather, Banson Hicks of Okemah; paternal grandparents, Ralph and Christina Stewart Sr. of Chandler; eight uncles; three aunts; and many cousins.

Pallbearers were Justin Hicks and Jeremiah Stewart.

Honorary pallbearers were Ryan and Simon Hicks.

Interment was at the Hicks Family Cemetery.

LENA CARR TIGER

TULSA — Funeral services for Lena Carr Tiger were held Nov. 26 at Jenk's Regular Baptist Church with Rev. Troy Hayes officiating.

Tiger died Nov. 24; she was born March 21, 1913 to Willie Carr and Ella Brown Carr in Leonard.

She liked horses and enjoyed attending rodeos and watching her father participate in rodeos. Tiger played baseball and softball and was a member of one the first women's baseball teams from Liberty Mounds. She also established and sponsored women's softball teams.

In her later years she became active in church work. She was a member of the Regular Baptist Church of Jenks.

Two of her interests were collecting antique jewelry and attending flea markets.

Preceding her in death include her husband, George Tiger and son, Benny Tiger.

Tiger is survived by: sons, Connie Mack Tiger and Daniel Tiger; daughters, Delores Freeman and Jane Cornell, all of Tulsa; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a sister, Emma Marshall of Liberty Mounds.

please see **OBITUARIES**..., page 12

West

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California area, performing for educational academies and local churches. Through the use of skillful archery exhibitions and entertaining trick shots, West's Archery now teaches children and adults the importance of setting goals and meeting them. "By using our sharp shooting skills and various trick shots, we show others how they can keep their focus and concentration in overcoming distractions that come along life's way," says West.

West's Muscogee heritage comes from his father, who was born to Florence M. Davis. "I am proud of my native Creek culture and proud to be an archer," says West, "but what makes me the most proud is that my sons are learning to give to others and to help teach mentoring."

West sees the need to guide and educate the youth of today as a quest. "There are many distractions out there. If we don't get their attention, someone else will," says West. Not only is West and his family interested in helping kids achieve goals, but also to look to others for help. "The best part of what we do," says West, "is to teach our kids in the community to find a mentor worth listening to and the best place to start is with mom and dad, grandparents, teachers and pastors — someone you trust and respect."

West's archery has also helped to raise money to purchase and donate all of the archery equipment necessary to help set up archery departments in schools that can't afford to, schools like Calexico Mission School and Holbrook Indian School.

Not only are the Wests reaching out to kids in the southern California area, but they have traveled the nation and the globe as well. In March of 2000 the West family made an appearance in cities in Switzerland and Israel, as well travelling to Hawaii recently. Next year, West's Archery plans a tour of Japan, the Philippines, and Egypt.

Although the West family stresses the importance of goal setting through archery, which seems to have become a family trait, they encourage all families to "get out and make a difference," regardless of their talent.

"We are trying to get the youth of America to be better than we ever were and not to quit on their God-given potential — to dream again. Success is a choice and not a fate."

Sisters

continued from page 1

Creek Baptist; Davis Chapel United Methodist; Haikey Chapel United Methodist; Okmulgee Indian Baptist; Springtown United Methodist; and Thomas Community Church.

Those attending are requested to bring their favorite dish.

Nelson

To get to Thomas Community Church from 71st Street and Ben Lumpkin (Coweta) Road drive one mile north on 71st Street and one and one half miles east on 61st Street.

Nelson will be 100 on Feb. 2 and Smith turned 90 on Jan. 11. The sisters were born to Mac and Sarah Thomas and were raised near the Verdigris River Bottom near Broken Arrow. They belong to the Bird Clan.

Nelson lives in Coweta and enjoys crocheting,

Filings

continued from page 2

Criminal — Misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Helen Smith
  — Count 1: public Intoxication
  — Count 2: assault on a police officer
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Winona Willett
  — Count 1: contempt
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Helen Smith
  — Count 1: public intoxication
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Gabrielle Padillow
  — Count 1: possession of illegal drug marijuana

Traffic:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Ashley Compton
  — Count 1: failure to stop for stop sign
  — Count 2: operating a vehicle without a driver's license
  — Count 3: failure to use child restraint
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Randy Wayne Roberts
  — Count 1: transporting a loaded firearm in a vehicle
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Daniel Galen Poole
  — Count 1: possession on illegal drug paraphernalia
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Gabrielle Padillow
  — Count 1: possession of illegal drug marijuana

December District Court filings

Civil Actions:

- Bank of Oklahoma vs. Susan Pickering
- Mary Barnes, Deloise Johnson, Shirley Almerigi, Wilma Berryhill, Sue Ann Davis vs. Esther Grona
- Ronald Little vs. Joanna Crouch
- Security Finance vs. Rosie Berryhill

Protective Orders:

- Gwen Barnett vs. Nicole Dunback, Kandace Hendrix, and Kathleen Ledbetter
- Scott Bahe vs. Ed Ledbetter
- Scott Bahe vs. Sherri Deere, Jamie Deere, and Gaston Buck
- Ramona Nester vs. Chane Pettit

Criminal - Misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Samuel Harjo
  — Count 1: violation of protective order
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Keith Pinion
  — Count 1: resisting arrest
  — Count 2: assault and battery
  — Count 3: public intoxication
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Lamont Osborn
  — Count 1: public intoxication
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Monica Grace
  — Count 1: public intoxication

Traffic:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Ryan Jason Perkins
  — Count 1: reckless driving
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Robert Brandon Perkins
  — Count 1: open receptacle alcoholic beverages in motor vehicle
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Elychia Harwell
  — Count 1: violation of liquor law

Second Opinion

continued from page two

Ground was broken for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bureau of Indian Affairs Office Building on Dec. 14. McCaleb was on hand to help break ground for the six million dollar building to be constructed in Muskogee. Its construction will mark the first tribally-built and owned building to be leased to a regional area office of the BIA.

Correction

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Quarterly Financial statement which was published in The Muscogee Nation News, Vol. 30, issue 12 was for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 2001

Among Christmas dinners I attended were: Tulsa Creek Indian Community; Holdenville Elderly Nutrition Program; and Sapulpa Indian Community.

A very special congratulations is extended to our newly sworn-in Council representatives. They took the oath of office early in the month. The ceremonious event was held on Jan. 5 with an attendance in excess of 250 individuals. I know they are ready to pursue with legislative priorities this month. To the ones that were defeated or decided not to run — we'll miss you all and hope to work with you again.

I have received several letters and e-mail from citizens and welcome all. I try to answer all mail. Yes, Ms. **Siekawitch** you were absolutely right with you letter. The past cannot be changed, but you must profit from your mistakes and build a better future for all people.

Everyone is welcome to come by and see the new office that has been renovated for Principal Chief **R. Perry Beaver** and me. It's very nice and appreciated very much. I believe the National Council and Judicial branch will be moving into the remodeled Independent Agencies Building by mid March

The holiday season is over, but let us not cease to remember and assist those who have little or nothing — especially the children — throughout the rest of the year. We adults are entrusted to teach and protect the little ones and provide comfort and care for the elders.

Don't forget to say a prayer for us tribal leaders because we need guidance also. *Mvto.*

Council

continued from page 3

confirmed by the National Council;

voting no were **Marshall** and **Fife**;

- returned to committee (19-0-0) NCA 01-195, providing for the appropriation of funds for the purpose of demolishing certain buildings and structures located at old Eufaula Boarding School;
- approved as amended (19-0-0) NCA 01-196, amending NCA 01-121, title 4 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing NCA 93-12);
- approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-197, authorizing a special appropriation to the Euchee Language Preservation Project for the development of new teaching tools to aid in the preservation of the Euchee Language and related cultural information;
- approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-200, appropriating funds for the construction of parking lots located on the tribal complex;
- approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-201, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Hughes county;
- approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-203, authorizing the controller to establish a petty cash fund under the guidelines of generally accepted accounting principles and repealing NCA 92-98;
- approved as amended (19-0-0) NCA 01-206, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 11

Council

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elder;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 01–207, appropriating funds for the establishment of an elderly nutrition program and renovation of the Sapulpa Indian Community Center;

• approved as amended (19-0-0) NCA 01-208, authorizing a special appropriation to assist a Muscogee (Creek) citizen in expenses accumulated as a result of financial hardship;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-209, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the office of the tax commission; and

• approved (18-0-0) NCA 01-210, authorizing a special appropriation to assist the town of Dustin in evaluating its water system and to provide emergency water supplies to its residents;

Lewis did not vote.

Nov. 17 regular session

Absent were: **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek District; **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek District; and **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee District; and **Nathan Buck**, Tukvpvtce District.

Buck arrived prior to business, making attendance at 21 with five absent.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• tabled (20-0-0) Tribal Resolution 01-62, accepting a request to provide assistance to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Board to obtain new office facilities for division of health administration staff and medical services based in Okmulgee;

• tabled (19-1-0) TR 01-65, amending TR 01-53 (a tribal resolution authorizing the principal chief to enter into a financing agreement with Bank One to fund the construction of an office building in Muskogee;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Dave Lewis**; Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner, and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

voting no was **McIntosh**;

• approved as amended (20-0-0) TR 01-67, confirming the nomination of **Richard Anderson** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation election board;

• approved (20-0-0) TR 01-68, support of a Oklahoma Native American Research Center for Health (ONARCH) grant;

• approved (20-0-0) TR 01-69, support of Oklahoma Native American Research Center for Health (ONARCH) project use of alcohol services by parents of neglected children;

• approved (17-2-0) TR 01-70, authorizing the principal chief to execute a modification agreement for the purchase of property in the City of Wetumka;

voting no were **Berryhill** and **Gillespie**;

Hufft did not vote;

• approved (20-0-0) TR 01-71, confirming the nomination of **James B. King** to serve on the tribal trade and commerce authority board of trustees and repealing National Council Resolution 01-04 (a resolution of the National Council confirming the nomination of **James B. King** to serve on the tribal trade and commerce authority board of trustees);

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-205, authorizing a special appropriation to Pecan Grove Methodist Church for the purchase and installation of a central heat and air system;

• approved (17-2-1) NCA 01-212, appropriating funds to reimburse the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Native American Housing And Self Determination Act account for 20 acres of north of the complex;

voting no were **Fife** and **Gillespie**;

abstaining was **Berryhill**;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-214, appropriating funds for the Creek Nation Challenge Bowl and authorizing the expenditure of said funds;

• approved (18-2-0) NCA 01-215, amending NCA 01-136 §514 B (4) (a law amending certain tax laws of the Nation and enacting new tax laws for the purposes of codification of the tax laws of the Nation in title 36 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were **Pickering** and **King**;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-218, authorizing a budget modification of the employment training program;

• approved as amended (19-1-0) NCA 01-221, amending NCA 94-10 (substitute) §§105 and 115 (4) (an ordinance repealing NCA 92-88 and establishing a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems — Hospital and Clinics Act of 1994 — to provide clarification to board recommendation requirements and to modify the authority of the tribal health systems board with regard to contractual agreements;

voting no was **Fife**;

• approved as amended (17-3-0) NCA 01-222, amending NCA 89-135, relating to the permanent fund;

voting no were: **Fife**; **Berryhill**; and **Gillespie**;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-224, amending NCA 01-113, §4 (a law appropriating funds for the establishment of a post graduate program);

• approved as amended (17-3-0) NCA 01-227, repealing TR 01-53 (a tribal resolution authorizing the principal chief to enter into a financing agreement with Bank One to fund the construction of an office building in Muskogee) and authorizing the prinicpal chief to borrow funds from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation permanent fund to finance the construction of an office building in Muskogee;

voting no were: **Bible**; **Berryhill**; and **Gillespie**;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-228, amending NCA 92-109 (an ordinance adopting a physical plant maintenance and capital improvent policy, as amended by NCA 97-81); and

• approved (18-0-0) NCA 01-229, authorizing the expenditure of a tribal courts' enhancement grant from the U. S. Department of Justice and to repeal NCA 91-84 (an ordinance authorizing the tribal judicial branch to apply for and receive grand funds) and eliminate Supreme court approval requirements regarding acceptance and expenditure of grant funds.

Natchez enrollment project underway

WELEETKA — The Natchez Nation, a Muscogee (Creek) tribe, is in the process of conducting membership enrollment with its Natchez enrollment project.

This has been an ongoing process with the traditional Natchez government. It is necessary that eligibility for enrollment be documented genealogically. Persons whose families are historically from the southeastern and south central portions of Muscogee (Creek) Nation may be eligible for enrollment.

The Natchez Nation, although not federally recognized, has maintained its culture and traditions and is in process of creating an intertribal cultural preservation institute and bicultural school through its nonprofit organization — Este Mvskokulke Momen Hopuetvke, Inc. The institute and projects associated with it may provide careers and employment for Native Americans.

Many Natchez people are enrolled with other tribes, but the traditional central government and social institutions have not changed over millennia, according to a press release submitted by the tribe. The tribe brought its ceremonial fire, traditions, and beliefs to Indian Territory over the "Trail of tears." The Natchez are estimated to number at 5,000. Membership may be derived from a mother's or paternal grandmother's Natchez lineage.

Tribal members with Natchez ancestry have been included on various tribal rolls including: Muscogee, Chickasaw, Seminole, and Cherokee because of the manner in which the tribe was removed to what is now Oklahoma by the federal government. Natchez tradition dictates that close associations with other tribes are necessary and productive; close ties should be maintained. The Natchez, although an independent tribe, choose not to separate themselves from the traditional Maskoke Confederacy or the Muscogee Nation. Natchez Nation has its own ceremonies and members participate regularly in Maskoke ceremonial grounds and churches.

Persons with Natchez descent may be concerned that enrollment with the Natchez Nation will, in some way, affect their enrollment status with Muscogee Nation or another tribe. The Natchez are a treaty tribe of the Muscogee Nation, not individually federally recognized. The current Muscogee Constitution guarantees and warrants that (article II, sections 3, 4, and 5) claims against the U.S. government, trust relationship with the U.S., and rights and privileges of persons of the Muscogee Nation to organize tribal towns or recognize its Muscogee traditions shall not be abridged. Enrollment with the Natchez will not affect an individual's current tribal status or benefits that they receive as a citizen of Muscogee (Creek) Nation or another tribe. If, at any point in the future, the Natchez people, through their council, decide that they meet the requirements for federal recognition, tribal members will be notified and may choose their affiliation.

To request a meeting, schedule a visit, or for more information, tribal members with Natchez ancestry may write: The Sovereign Natchez Nation of the Traditional Mvskoke Confederacy, P.O. Box 6, Weleetka, OK 74880; call (405) 786-2445; or e-mail: emmh2445@mmind.net.

Notices

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health insurance card, if any.

Funding will be expended based on the following priorities: 1 — enrolled original allottees; 2 — children 18 years of age or younger; 3 — Muscogee citizens ages 50 years and older, and 4 — Muscogee citizens ages 19 to 50, for the tribal program.

Citizens are eligible to receive assistance every two years on the tribal program and every year on the CSBG program. Applicants for the CSBG program must be at least 50 years of age and provide income verification to receive assistance. Assistance will be based on the availability of

please see **NOTICES...**, page 12

Notices

continued from page 11

funds.

Eligible applicant must use optometrists who have been contracted with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health Administration.

Each individual is eligible to receive up to $145 for total vision care, which includes the exam, lenses, and frames. Contact lenses are only allowable if required medically.

The division of health administration's contract health services program will administer these programs.

To request an application or for more information, call (918) 758-2710. Applications will be sent by mail.

Fire suppression program offers pack tests

OKMULGEE — The Bureau of Indian Affairs/ Muscogee (Creek) Nation Fire Suppression Program will be administering pack tests on Jan. 26 and Feb. 2.

All pack tests will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Individuals taking the test are required to carry a minimum of 45 pounds on his/her back and must complete three miles in 45 minutes or less. The tests will be offered at Harmon Stadium. Emergency Medical Services will be present during the tests. Test will be cancelled because of inclement weather, including rain.

New recruits will need to provide a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood or tribal citizenship card. A medical examination form, available at the BIA/tribal fire management office, must be submitted by Feb. 2. Qualified applicants will attend wildland firefighting training from Feb. 11 through 15 at the Chickasaw Nation in Ada.

Firefighters need to complete pack testing on the required dates and complete a 2002 refresher course, "Standard for Survival." The dates for this course will be announced on Jan. 19. These two requirements must be met in order for firefighters to be eligible.

The fire management office is located at 1006 E. Eufaula. For more information, call (918) 752-0604.

Hanna 4-H member wins grand champion award

EUFAULA — Nine year old Kelsey Proctor, a first year Hanna 4-H Club member, recently won grand champion in the junior division at the McIntosh County Fabric and Fashion Show.

Proctor

She was awarded a blue ribbon and $10 Wal Mart gift certificate for her winning tote bag. She is the daughter of Darrell and Robin Proctor and is a fourth grade student at Hanna Public Schools.

Enrollment for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H program is open to youth ranging in ages nine to 19 who reside within the boundaries of the Muscogee Nation. Youth ages five to eight can also be involved in a non-competitive manner as "Cloverbuds."

Tribal 4-H Extension Educator Jamie Littlefield is located in the human development building on the tribal capitol complex in Okmulgee. For more information, call (918) 756-8700 or toll free at 1 (800) 482–1979, ext. 610.

Many participate in "Great American Smokeout"

OKMULGEE — On Nov. 15 the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention and Control Program and its tobacco committee encouraged the local community to participate in the national "Great American Smokeout" through the distribution of T-shirts and the display of a kiosk with antismoking messages.

"Every department in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation participated, it was a huge success," said Cynthia Coachman, program manager. Carla Brown, program administrative assistant, estimated that around 300 tribal employees participated. Coachman offered her gratitude to the Women Infants and Children Program participants that also participated. The youngest participate was a six day old baby that wore a T-shirt that read "Keep Me Tobacco Free."

Applications available for incentives program

OKMULGEE — The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service has announced the tentative approval of funds for the Grayson Lower Deep Fork Priority Area Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

The program is available to landowners to develop conservation plans and enter into five to 10 year contracts that provide incentive payments and cost share assistance for approved conservation practices. The priority area is located east of Okmulgee to the county line south of Okmulgee to a line one mile south of Hoffman. Some of the practices available for cost share assistance are brush control and fencing and grade stabilization structures. Some of the incentive payments are prescribed grazing and livestock exclusion. Funds are also available for those producers in the county whose land is not in a priority area. These funds are used to address: soil erosion; water quality; grazing lands infested with eastern red cedar; and lesser prairie chicken habitat.

The USDA NRCS provides technical assistance and cost share of up to 75 percent on practices. The Farm Services Agency accepts applications, administers the funds, and processes payments.

Applicants for EQIP will be accepted on a continuous basis starting immediately and, upon notification of actual program allocations, a formal sign-up period and closing period will be announced. The applications will then be formally evaluated, ranked and approved for contract development in early spring.

The NRCS or Farm Service Agency is located at 719 E. 8th St. For more information, call (918) 756-0850.

Tulsa Indian Art Festival

TULSA — The 16th annual Tulsa Indian art festival will be held Feb. 1 through 3 at Greenwood Cultural Center, located at 322 N. Greenwood.

This showcase of art and tradition, honoring the spirit of the American Indian, to evolve as a juried art exhibit and sale. On Feb. 1, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 2, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Feb. 3, from noon to 6 p.m., the Tulsa Indian art festival will feature an art market, hands on activities, cultural demonstrations, educational exhibits, storytelling, a student art exhibit, Indian exhibition dancing, and authentic American Indian food. General Admission is $5.

Victoria McKinney is the featured poster artist for this year's event. McKinney will host a booth in which she will sell her works which are reflective of the mound builder culture of eastern Oklahoma.

Reservations are required for Feb. 1 artist reception to begin at 6:30 p.m; tickets are $40. The art market will be open during the reception which features a free poster signed by the artist, juried art awards, a live and silent auction, a buffet, Indian dancers, a student art exhibit, and announcement of the scholarship winners.

The Tulsa Indian art festival is a project of the National Indian Monument and Institute. It is a nonprofit all-volunteer network, sponsoring scholarships in the visual and performing arts to qualified American Indian students.

For more information, call (918) 838-3875 or e-mail wponca@juno.com.

Medicine man coauthors book on medicine ways

OKMULGEE — "In Creek Indian Medicine Ways," a book written by Mvskoke medicine man David Lewis Jr. and Anthropologist Ann T. Jordan, has recently been published.

In the book, Lewis, a full-blood Mvskoke and practicing medicine man, tells about the medicine tradition that has shaped his life. Born into a family of medicine people, he was chosen at birth to carry on the tradition. He shares his memories about his childhood training and initiation as a medicine man as well as his remembrances about his father and grandmother, who trained him. Lewis reveals part of the sacred story of the origin of plants and he identifies some of the plants he uses in his cures. He also describes several of the ceremonies his teachers taught him, stressing throughout the sacredness and importance of Mvskoke medicine.

In "Creek Indian Medicine Ways," Jordan traces the written accounts of Mvskoke religion from the 18th century to the present in order to historically contextualize Lewis's story and knowledge. "The book is a collaboration between anthropologist and medicine man that provides a rare glimpse of a living religious tradition and its origins."

Lewis, also a member of the Muscogee National Council, lives in Yardeka community. Jordan teaches anthropology at the University of North Texas.

The ISBN is 0-8263-2367-7.

Obituaries

continued from page 9

Gratitude

Words cannot express the gratitude and appreciation we feel towards all who supported us with love through thoughts and prayers, visitations, flowers, cards, food, and words of encouragement before and during the loss of our husband, father, son, and brother.

Special appreciation is extended to: Revs. Dave Long Jr. and Paul Maxey, both of whom officiated; Brenda Cummings, pianist; the pallbearers; and especially to the members of Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church for making preparations for the wake and funeral services.

We also appreciate the ministers, moderators, and deacons who spoke at the wake service those who attended the services and sang the beautiful native hymns.

We miss Richard, but we have peace and comfort in our hearts knowing that he is well and happy in a better place and that someday we will see him again. May God bless each of you for what you have done for us.

William Richard Dunson Family

We want to thank everyone that sent prayers, flowers, food and cards during our recent loss. A special thank is offered to Weogufkee Baptist Church and Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their assistance.

Eldon Lewis Family

The Muscogee Nation News

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Citizen charged with making bomb threat to tribal child development center

MUSKOGEE — Dewar tribal citizen Stoney Joe McIntosh plead not guilty to a federal grand jury charge — count one bomb threat — during an arraignment hearing held on Feb. 19 in U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Oklahoma.

McIntosh, 38, allegedly made a telephone bomb threat to the tribe's Okmulgee Child Development Center on the morning of Jan. 17.

On the previous day McIntosh, who was employed as a teacher's aide in the center's two year old children's room, presented employee Sheila Harjo with a note stating "bomb today 1-16-02." He told Harjo that he had found the note in a bathroom located between the center's two and three year old children's rooms.

By viewing video surveillance tape of the area where the note was to have been placed, Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent John W. Fitzer determined that only two people had access the to the area — McIntosh and night custodian David Eugene Morgan. Both McIntosh and Morgan denied placing the note in the center. After interviewing McIntosh on Jan. 18 and obtaining consent to search his car and bedroom, Fitzer found a spiral notebook with impressions of the Jan. 16 handwritten bomb threat note. After being confronted with the evidence, McIntosh made a written confession to both threats, according to a complaint affidavit by Fitzer.

He was arrested on Jan. 25 and released on a $5,000 bond under the conditions that he appear at all proceed-

please see **BOMB**..., page 2

photo by Stephanie Barnett

Nora Thomas Nelson, front, and Katie Thomas Smith, back, at the celebration of their 100th and 90th birthdays.

Muscogee People

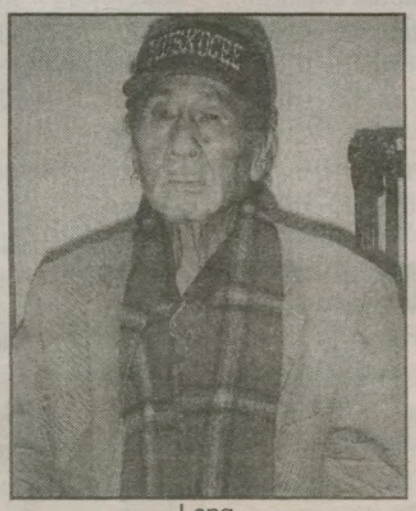
Man serves country in World War II; dedicates last 50 years to serving Indian peoples through ministry

by Gerald Wofford

Once in a while someone comes along that can be truly classified as a national treasure.

Rev. Harry Long of Muskogee may just have earned that honor. He has been a minister to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for over 47 years. He has been called upon to minister and officiate at countless revivals, weddings, and funerals.

Long said he felt the call to preach back in 1947 — just to make it official, but even before then he said he always felt that he was called to preach. "I like communicating with people," Long said.



Long

He has not only ministered, but has been a missionary as well. He has served in places such as: Ft. Yuma, Calif.; Pawnee; and he even had a street ministry in Phoenix, Ariz.

Even though Long knew his life's plan long ago, he did not always know how the plan would exactly work out. Long grew up in the 1940s and, like many young Indian men, enlisted in the military during the second World War.

please see **LONG**..., page 7

Former employee charged with embezzlement from Muscogee Nation Tax Commission

MUSKOGEE — Okmulgee tribal citizen Steven Douglas Barnett plead not guilty to a federal grand jury charge of embezzlement from a tribal organization.

The indictment alleges the theft of over $40,000 from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission.

Barnett

While employed as a revenue agent for the tax commission,

please see **EMBEZZLEMENT**..., page 7

Letters to the editor

Woman seeks descendants of family

Editor:

The article on the Andersons [The Muscogee Nation News, November 2001] as World War I veterans was very informative and interesting.

What was even more interesting to me is that my grandmother's maiden name is Anderson. I know nothing about my grandmother's family and was curious to see if there are other tribal descendants of this surname which may be related to me. My grandmother's name was Phoebe Anderson Sudduth. She was born in Alabama in the 1890s. She migrated to Oklahoma in late 1890s and then southern California in 1930s. There is a funeral home in Muskogee named Granger Funeral Home; one of her cousins married a Granger. I was told that my grandmother was related to the Parmans and that one of them was a chief.

Individuals with information on my grandmother's family may write me at: 829 Clayton Ave., Nashville, Tenn. 37204.

Juarezetta E. Bass, Nashville, Tenn.

Editor's note: It is probable that the "Parmans" Juarezetta Bass is referring to are the families of Joseph and/or Legus C. Perryman — both of whom served as chiefs under the 1867 Constitution.

Man wants to learn about tribal heritage

Editor:

I'm a one-sixteenth Muscogee (Creek) and in my forties. I'm Creek on my father's side of the family. My parents were divorced while I was young and my heritage was never talked about. My father is dead and I'm trying to find out about my tribal heritage and what it means.

I'm currently in the federal prison in El Reno. I would welcome any and all letters and will respond to all who write. Please write: Arthur Clingman, #11887-051, F.C.I., P.O. Box 1500, El Reno, OK 73036.

Arthur C. Clingman, El Reno

January District Court filings

Civil Actions:

- Star Loans vs. Tammy Holata/Checotah
- Star Loans vs. Amber Fixico

Protective Orders:

- Kim Duncan vs. Kenneth Carter
- Desta Brown vs. Mart Brown
- Monnie Underwood vs. Cisco Underwood

Criminal-misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Tobias Simmers — count 1: public intoxication
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Bunny Powell — count 1: battery domestic

Criminal-felony:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Tharon Larry Woodard — count 1: attempted larceny of a motor vehicle

Bomb

continued from page 1

ings and serve any imposed sentence. The conditions of release prohibit him from contact with current or potential victims and witnesses in the investigation as well as child development center employees.

The federal grand jury only charged McIntosh with the telephone threat. Janet Wise, tribal child care manager, said that he will not be charged with the bomb threat note because, according to Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda A. Epperley, it was not processed through a postal service.

"I'm a little bit frustrated with it. I'm kind of having problems with the system altogether. It just doesn't make sense to me."

Shannon Cozzoni, tribal first assistant attorney general, said although he is not being charged with the bomb threat note, it will be taken under consideration during the sentencing phase.

Wise said Epperley indicated that the tribe may consider filing charges for the note through Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court. Cozzoni said the Muscogee Nation does not have a bomb threat law and that the tribe can only charge McIntosh with a misdemeanor crime. She said charges filed through the tribal office of the attorney general are contingent upon McIntosh's sentencing. Phone calls to Epperley by *The Muscogee Nation News* were not returned.

A jury trial is scheduled to be held for McIntosh on April 1 in the Eastern District Court. He faces a maximum punishment of imprisonment of up to 10 years and/or a fine of up to $250,000.

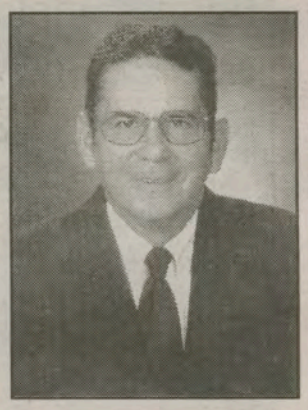
Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Muscogee (Creek) citizens, another year is well underway. Again, this year I will try and keep everyone informed of tribal progress and current happenings throughout our Nation as I see it. The opinions and quotes that appear are written by myself and are mine alone.

In January ceremonies swearing-in the new National Council were held in the nearly completed mound building. Congratulations to each of you and may we all work together for the betterment of our people.

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes was held at the Southern Hills Tulsa Marriott in January also. A great turnout was apparent; a big thanks is extended to all Muscogee Nation employees who contributed to hosting this event.



I attended the Southern Oklahoma Water Association meeting in Okmulgee in January. Farmers and ranchers throughout Oklahoma are trying to decide who owns the ground water in eastern Oklahoma. They all assume that they and the State of Oklahoma own it. A note to them: the Muscogee Nation received the water rights before Oklahoma was a state. Once more, we may have to defend our treaty rights in court.

My wife, Gail, and I attended the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce annual banquet in late January and were very proud to see the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard post the colors. As you local citizens in Okmulgee area may know, the tribe is usually taken for granted, if not ignored, in this area. Thank you honor guard for all of your hard work.

Federal Emergency Management Act driveway repairs were completed in February with approximately 120 driveways being repaired. With luck, we won't have another devastating ice storm this year.

The Creek Nation Housing Authority office building is quickly going up. Our people took possession of the new Muskogee Travel Plaza this week and will probably open in March. Check out the full service restaurant that will be available. The new Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bureau of Indian Affairs Office Building is also under construction across the road from the travel plaza. Tulsa riverside casino is also up for a three million dollar expansion. The Bristow nutrition center is almost completed. Our complex and mound buildings are having complete face-lifting to accommodate our governmental needs.

Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver delivered his state of the nation address in January and stated our plans and goals for the future.

I believe I have taken up my allotted space in *The Muscogee Nation News* for this month so everyone have faith in your Nation and your people; we will prevail. Please write or call me. I would like to hear from you.

Quote of the month — One way to think about leadership is to consider a jazz band. Jazz band leaders must choose the music, find the right musicians, and perform.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

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Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., March 20, April 3 and 17;

• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., March 21, April 4 and 18;

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., March 7 and 21 and April 4 and 18;

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., March 19, April 2 and 16; and

• Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia – – applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., April 2.

Tribal vision program accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation vision program is accepting applications for the tribal and CSBG vision program for fiscal year 2002.

Applicants must reside within the State of Oklahoma and must attach copies of the following documents to completed application: tribal citizenship card; Social Security card; and health insurance card, if any.

Funding will be expended based in order of the following priorities: enrolled original allottees; children 18 years of age or younger; Muscogee citizens ages 50 years and older; and Muscogee citizens 19 to 50, for the tribal program.

Citizens are eligible to receive assistance every two years on the tribal program and every year on the CSBG program. Applicants for the CSBG program must be at least 50 years of age and provide income verification to receive assistance. Assistance will be based on the availability of funds.

Eligible applicants must use vendors who have been contracted with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health Administration.

Each individual is eligible to receive up to $145 for total vision care, which includes the exam, lenses, and frames. Contact lenses are only allowable if required medically.

The division of health administration's contract health services is administering these programs.

To request an application or for more information, call (918) 758-2710. Applications will be sent by mail.

Swine program reciepients to begin showing pigs

OKMULGEE — Eight recipients of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Swine Program will be completing the program by showing their gilts at their respective county shows this spring.

As these county shows approach, Jamie Littlefield, Muscogee (Creek) Nation extension educator, is encouraging tribal officials and citizens to support these youth. "Supporters of 4-H and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are strongly encouraged to attend these county shows where the youth will demonstrate their projects. Promoting the program through monetary donations and added prize money would be appreciated also."

The eight 4-H members were awarded gilts — a female pig that has not given birth — and 600 pounds of feed are: Alice Harjo and Jonathon Billy, both of Hughes County; Anna Grammar and Tiffany Treat, both of Okmulgee County; Kari Hutchins, Ethan Whitehouse, and Ronnie Fulks

please see **NOTICES...**, page 7

Onion dinners

Little Cussetah United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 9
Where: Henryetta Civic Center — 115 S. 4th St.
Cost: $6 for adults; $3 for children ages 12 and under
For more information: (918) 650-2539

Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center
When: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 9
Where: Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center — 8611 S. Union Avenue
Cost: $7 for adults; $3 for children ages eight and under; an arts and crafts sale fair will be held during the dinner also
For more information: (918) 298-2464 or (918) 446-7049

Sam Proctor and BJ Jackson
When: 11 a.m., **March 10**
Where: Toney Hill Tribal Town Center — 118 Elm St. in Okemah
Cost: $4 per plate; a food sale will also be held prior to grocery bingo which will begin at 1 p.m.
For more information: (918) 298-2464 or (918) 446-7049

Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 16
Where: Haikey Chapel UMC — 8503 E. 101st in Broken Arrow
Cost: $7 donation for adults; $3.50 donation for children ages 12 and under

Big Cussetah United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 16
Where: Big Cussetah UMC — from Okmulgee, drive three miles east on U.S. Highway 62 and three and one half miles south on Prairie Bell Road

Muscogee Indian Community senior group
When: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 16
Where: Muscogee Indian Community Center — 111 S. Virginia in Muskogee
Cost: $6 for adults; $3 for children ages eight and under

Oklahoma City Muscogee Association
When: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 23
Where: Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association Building — 543 S.E. 29th St. in Oklahoma City
Cost: $6 for adults
For more information: (405) 947-7752

Language news

Mvskoke language instructors sought by resident services

OKMULGEE — Creek Nation Housing Authority's Resident Services is seeking individuals to teach the Mvskoke language to housing residents.

Individuals interested in teaching must be able to speak, read, and write the Mvskoke language and be willing to teach one evening class a week for six weeks. Individuals selected will be required to obtain certification through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation Office. Teachers will be compensated.

For more information, call resident services at: 1 (800) 259-5050, ext. 4167 or (918) 759-4167.

Eight-session language classes being held in Sapulpa

SAPULPA — An eight-session Mvskoke language course began on Feb. 12 at Morning Star Fellowship, 722 N. Hodge.

Classes are held each Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and will continue through April 9. Rev. John Fixico of Sapulpa is the instructor.

Fixico recommends the course for adults to children as young as five — on the condition that the child has a desire to learn. There is no fee associated with the class, although monetary donations or groceries are appreciated, said Fixico.

For more information, call: (918) 224-9231 or (918) 694-8628.

Council House hosting Mvskoke language classes

OKMULGEE — An eight-session Maskoke language class is being held at the Creek Council House Museum, 106 W. 6th St., from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. each Thursday.

The class began on Feb. 19; after an unannounced two week break, classes will resume. Instructor Irene Culley will concentrate on a short list of conversational phrases as well as content requested by students. The class fee is $60.

The class was coordinated through the Muscogee Nation Tobacco Prevention and Control Program.

For more information, call Ted Isham, Creek Nation Council House Museum curator, at (918) 756-2324.

Creek Council House holding hymn singing class

OKMULGEE — Mvskoke hymn singing classes are being held at the Creek Council House Museum, 106 W. 6th St., from 7 to 8 p.m. each Thursday evening.

Tallahassee Deacon Alfred Berryhill is leading the class which began on Feb. 14. He will concentrate on a short list of songs to be learned; he will teach other hymns at the students' request. The class will be held for five sessions, break for two weeks, then resume.

The songs will be taught in Mvskoke with phonetic transcriptions to go along with the songs.

This event, hosted by the Council House Museum, is for the community of Mvskokvlke in the area. "In these troubled times that we are immersed in, we need to come together as a community and this will hopefully fill some of that need," said Ted Isham, curator. "The singing classes have been very well attended and enjoyed by all."

For more information, call Isham at (918) 756-2324.

Entries sought for language essay contest

VERMILLION, S.D. — South Dakota Public Broadcasting and Indigenous Issues Forums are asking youth to submit entries to its contest — "Exploring Our Culture Through Language" Indigenous Language Essay Contest

Youth, ages 12 through 24, are asked to choose a word or phrase — either in an indigenous language or in English — and root out its native meaning by doing thorough research to learn more about it and writing a short essay sharing what has been learned.

Prizes for first, second, third, and honorable mention will be awarded in two categories: ages 12 to 17; and 18 to 24. All entries will be recognized. Essays are due March 15.

The contest is being sponsored by South Dakota Public Broadcasting and Indigenous Issues Forums.

For more information, contact: Elaine Larson, SD Public Broadcasting, at 1 (800) 456-0766 or elaine.larson@sdpb.org or Ruth Yellow Hawk, Indigenous Issues Forums, at (605) 574-2165 or kfyellowhk@aol.com.

Broken Arrow boy being scouted

TULSA — Officials from the New York Yankees, the Kansas City Royals, and the Philadelphia Phillies have already informed 17 year old Joseph Tate Arsee that they will be sending scout to watch him during his upcoming season.

Arsee has played baseball for Victory Christian School for three years. He has also received letters from: Cincinnati Reds; Baylor University; Stanford University; Connors and Seminole state colleges. Arsee, who plays the positions of pitcher and catcher, said that he is waiting to receive word from the university that he wants to attend — Oral Roberts University — before he makes a decision.

Arsee, a 17 year old junior, has also played football for VBS for the last three years.

He is the son of Tammy Johnson of Broken Arrow and Albert Arsee of Morris.

His paternal grandparents are the late Bessie and Malcolm Nevaquaya of Morris. His paternal great-grandparents are the late Solomon and Millie Roberts Fields, Hanna.

Sisters win essay and poster contests

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee sisters from Hanna both won first place in their age categories in the 2001 Oklahoma Red Ribbon Essay contest.

A. and K. Proctor

Amberly Proctor won first place in the five to seven age category. Kelsey Proctor won first place in the essay and poster contests in the eight to 10 age category.

Lt. Gov. Mary Fallin and Bob Ricks, cabinet secretary for safety and security, presented the sisters with medals and certificates at the state capitol on Dec. 12.

A. Proctor attends kindergarten and K. Proctor is a fourth grader; they both attend at Hanna School. They are the daughters of Darrell and Robin Proctor.

The Jim Thorpe Association is the state office for the Oklahoma Red Ribbon Celebration and honors the winners of the Red Ribbon Week Poster and Essay Contest. This contest encourages children to say no to drugs. The association believes many lives have been saved through the red ribbon week activities.

Sisters win essay and poster contests

CINCINNATI — Romnii Waniella Ross is currently obtaining a masters of business administration, at the University of Cincinnati.

Ross

Ross is studying with concentrations in finance and management in a one year accelerated program.

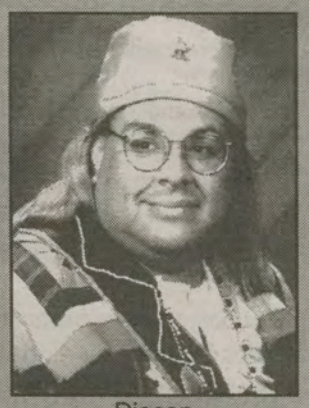
She graduated from Howard University in Washington D.C. in May 2001 where she was a chemistry major and mathematics minor.

Ross plans to become a physician and wants to focus on improving the overall health of the Native American community.

She was born in Tulsa and belongs to Tulwathlocco Tribal Town. She is the granddaughter of Naomi Miles-Irons; she is a descendent of Richard R. Bruner, a lawyer in the historic and infamous trial of Timmie Jack.

Southern Plains Indian Museum features promotional exhibition — "Johnnie Lee Diacon Mixed Media"

ANADARKO — "Johnnie Lee Diacon Mixed Media," a promotional exhibition, is currently on view at The Southern Plains Indian Museum, 715 E. Central Boulevard



Diacon

Included in the exhibition are 12 mixed media works including: acrylic paintings on canvas; silkscreen prints on paper; acrylic and collage on fiberglass; and pieces created with "found" objects. Some of the work is autobiographical, such as the mixed media piece entitled "My Mother's War Shield," featuring a 1956 hubcap adorned with feather pendants. The work is a direct reference to the demise of the his mother who was killed in an auto accident soon after his birth. Other pieces reveal Diacon's purposeful portrayal of his Maskoke heritage. An example of the artist's cultural focus, "Muskogee Muscogee Mvskoke Creek," depicts images from his family and historical photos, as well as clan names, street signs from around the Muscogee Nation, stomp dance songs, and stories painted across the canvas.

Diacon was born into the Deer Clan on Jan. 8, 1963 in Okemah. After high school, he studied art at Bacone College in Muskogee. After getting his associate of arts degree in 1990, he attended Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, for a year, then the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark., where he studied for three years. In 1997 he enrolled in the Institute of American Indian Arts, Sante Fe, N.M., and graduated with top honors and an associate of fine arts degree in 1998.

He has exhibited his work in Oklahoma, New Mexico, Indiana, and South Dakota. Last year he received first place and best in division at Eiteljorg Museum Indian Art Show and Market, Indianapolis, Ind.

Diacon resides in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Most of the work on display will be available for sale. A four-page brochure, Johnnie Lee Diacon Mixed Media, has been published for the exhibition. Free copies of it are available upon request by calling or writing: (405) 247-6221; Southern Plains Indian Museum, P.O. Box 749, Anadarko, OK 73005.

"Johnnie Lee Diacon Mixed Media" will be on view until March 20. Viewing hours are from 9 a.m to 5 p.m, Tuesday through Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays. Admission fees are: adults, $3; groups of 10 or more, $1 per person; children ages six to 12, $1; and children under age six, free. Admission is free on Sundays.

The Southern Plains Indian Museum is administered by the Indian Arts and Craft Board of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Birth

Emily Jane Combs

NOVATO, Calif. — Emily Jane Combs was born Sept. 29 to Michael and Valerie Combs.

She weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 19 and one half inches in length.

Combs

Her paternal grandfather is Harold Combs. She is the great-granddaughter of the late Beulah Combs, Davenport.

The baby has two sisters, Heather, an art major at College of Marin, Novato, Calif. and Jennifer, a sophomore and level nine gymnast at San Marin High School.

Birthdays

Sister and brother celebrate birthdays

YARDEKA — Tamiko and Deion Dee celebrated their ninth and sixth birthdays on Nov. 2 and Sept. 13.

T. Dee

T. Dee celebrated her birthday at the home of her grandparents, Timmy and Joyce Thompson, with relatives and friends.

D. Dee had a birthday party at his home in Farmington, N.M.

T. Dee lives with the Thompsons and is a third grader at Ryal School where she plays basketball and is a cheerleader.

D. Dee attends Oho Amarillo Public School, Fruitland, N.M. He also plays basketball and enjoys straightdancing.

D. Dee

They are the children of Tina and James Dee of Farmington, N.M.

Their grandparents are the Thompsons of Yardeka and Jennie and Ralph Dee of Red Mesa, Ariz.

Their great-grandparents are the late Bessie Fife and George Thompson Sr.

VIRGIL HARJO

WICHITA, KS. — Funeral services for Virgil "Blue" Harjo were held Nov. 30 at the Wichita Indian United Methodist Church.

Harjo was born on July 15, 1924 in Henryetta to Chaparney and Rose Kernel Harjo.

He attended Euchee Indian Boarding School and Haskell Indian School were he met his wife, Geraldine Cerre. They were married on May 19, 1943 in Newkirk. While attending Haskell he participated in football, basketball, and baseball — lettering in all three. After serving in the Navy during World War II, he finished his high school education at Haskell and moved to Ponca City before settling in Wichita, Kan..

He worked at Coleman Co. Harjo then worked at Cessna and Boeing Aircraft, Chilocco Indian School, and his final job was with Learjet. He retired in 1991.

In later years he and his wife enjoyed playing golf together.

Harjo was a member of: Wichita Indian United Methodist Church; the local Veterans of Foreign Wars post; American Legion; and Pine Bay Men's Golf Club.

Preceding him in death include: his wife; parents; brother, Jesse; and sister, Lily.

Survivors include: son, Gerald Blue Harjo and daughter, Elizabeth Harjo, both of Wichita; sister, Mary Jane Black of Pawnee; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

WAYLAND WARE

MADERA, CALIF. — Funeral services for Wayland Ware were held Nov. 20 at the Arbor Vitae Cemetery with the Rev. Dwight Koopmans officiating.

Ware was born on Jan. 4, 1916 in Bristow to Henderson and Lula Ware. He died at Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital, Auburn, Calif., on Nov. 16.

Ware

Ware attended Pine Hill Grade School and Olive High School where he played on the basketball team.

He married Mildred Ruth Low of Broken Arrow on June 29, 1935, while working at the CCC Camp. He spent most of his life on the west coast in Oregon and California. He retired from McDonnell-Douglas in 1975.

He enjoyed repairing old furniture. For many years, he supplemented his income through swap meets and garage sales. He also enjoyed restoring old cars. In later years, he enjoyed working in his yard, completing jigsaw puzzles, collecting Indian artifacts, and watching college basketball.

Preceding him in death were: his grandmother, Julia Carter Skeen; parents; brothers, Oren, Flaxie, and Richard; sisters, Iva Ware and Juanita Jones; and daughter, Norma Ware.

Survivors include: his wife of Grass Valley, Calif.; sister, Lorene Dasher and brother, Otis, both of Madera, Calif.; sons, Gary of Grass Valley and David of Honolulu, Hawaii; grandchildren, Kary of Stockholm, Sweden, Paul of Honolulu, and Cynthia of Auburn.

BILLY WASHINGTON JR.

MUSKOGEE — Funeral services for Billy Washington Jr. were held Dec. 15 at Butler Creek Baptist Church with Revs. Norman Daniels and Woody Wilson officiating.

He was born Feb. 5, 1959 in Tahlequah to Billy and Susie Washington. He died Dec. 12 at St John's Medical Center, Tulsa.

He grew up in the Muskogee area and attended Muskogee Public Schools.

Preceding him in death were: his father; maternal grandparents, Rev. Lee and Katie Wolf; and his paternal grandparents, Thomas and Martha Washington.

Survivors include: his mother of the home; two brothers, Mike and James Washington, both of Muskogee; two sisters, Cindy Daniel and Pamela Wilson, both of Muskogee; one uncle, Rev. Robert Washington of Okmulgee; one aunt, Darlene Buckner of Okmulgee; three nieces; four nephews; seven great-nieces; and three great-nephews.

Pallbearers were his nephews: Michael Washington; Derrick Washington; Chris Washington; Thomas Adair; Thomas Wilson; Ray Dearman; and Brian McBride.

JAMES WASHINGTON

MUSKOGEE — Funeral services for James Keith Washington were held Dec. 19 at Butler Creek Baptist Church with Revs. Norman Daniel and Woody Wilson officiating.

He was born Aug. 4, 1962 in Tahlequah to Billy and Susie Washington. He died Dec. 16.

He grew up in the Muskogee area and attended Muskogee and Oktaha public schools.

He was preceded in death by: his father, Rev. Billy Washington; brother, Billy Washinton; son, James Washington Jr.; maternal grandparents, Rev. Lee and Katie Wolf; and his paternal grandparents, Thomas and Martha Washington.

Survivors include: his mother of the home; one brother, Mike Washington of Muskogee; two sisters, Cindy Daniel and Pamela Wilson, both of Muskogee; one uncle, Rev. Robert Washington of Okmulgee; one aunt, Darlene Buckner of Okmulgee; three nieces; four nephews; seven great-nieces; and three great-nephews.

Pallbearers were his nephews: Michael Washington; Derrick Washington; Chris Washington; Thomas Adair; Thomas Wilson; Ray Dearman; and Brian McBride.

CHARLES WILSON

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Charles Osce Wilson were held Dec. 15 at Tuskegee Baptist Church with Revs. Ruben Kinney and Ernest Marshall officiating.

He was born Jan. 13, 1972 in Tahlequah to Kenneth and Sandra Marshall Wilson. He died Dec. 10.

He was a graduate of Eufaula High School and was a member of the Ironhead football team. He entered the U.S. Marine Corps in November 1990 and was honorably discharged in August 1998. He was a firefighter with the Bureau of Indian Affairs/Muscogee Nation Fire Supression Program and a member of Tuskegee Baptist Church.

Preceding him in death were: his grandparents, Alfred and Ruth Wilson; maternal grandfather, Ben Marshall; aunt, Sue Bible; and uncle, Homer Wilson.

Survivors include: his parents of Tulsa and Eufaula; maternal grandmother, Henryetta Marshall of Eufaula; two brothers, Barry Wilson of Eufaula and Tvse Ben Wilson of Durango, Colo.; sister, Julea Wilson of Durango, Colo.; aunts and uncles, Bonita and Ron Abernathy, of Muskogee, Hannah Francis of Glenpool, Edna Natseway of Tulsa, Tony and Lorraine Marshall of Owyhee, Nev., Jerry Francis, Mike Francis of Coalgate; Lewana Tanner, Carol West, Pansy Potts, Leona Harcrow, Alfred and Sandy Wilson, Charles Wilson, Johnny Wilson, Jerry and Colleen Wilson; nieces and nephew, Kayla Dee Wilson, Hiyuce Wilson, Chebon Abernathy and Sally Abernathy.

Pallbearers include: Spencer McIntosh; Tyler McIntosh; Eli McIntosh; Shannon Schackelford; A.J. Jones; Chad Lemasters; Chebon Abernathy; Tvse Wilson; Barry Wilson; and Julea Wilson.

Honorary pallbearers were the 1990 Eufaula High School Ironhead football team and coaches.

Interment was at the Marshall Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

We want to express our appreciation to those who offered us support during the illness and loss of our father and grandfather.

We are grateful for the concern and respect you showed him by visiting him in the hospital and attending prayer services in his home; we know that your presence and offering of prayers and Maskoke hymns uplifted his spirit and comforted him during his last days.

Special gratitude is also extended to Revs. Woody Wilson and Newman Frank and Honey Creek United Methodist Church members.

The support that you offered our family by attending services, preparing food, calling, and sending cards and flowers enabled us to honor his life and perform his last rites in a manner that he was so deserving of.

Mvto,

Thomas Berryhill Family

We would like to thank Thewahle United Methodist Church and Alabama Quassarte Ceremonial Ground for their help during the loss of our loved one.

We appreciate everyone that helped us during our time of need.

Eugene Harjo Family

We want to express our deepest gratitude and kindness to many friends and relatives for their thoughts and prayers during the loss of husband, father, and grandfather.

Many blessings are wished for you all.

Lee Roy Joshua Family

Religion

Scholarship to be established in name of citizen

BIXBY — Two Rivers Native American Training Center is seeking to honor the memory of the Rev. Jimmy "Bunny" Hill through the establishment a scholarship fund, for students of the center, in his name.

Hill had a desire to see native people become involved in Christian outreach and enjoyed having the chance to teach and train students for the work of the ministry. He was employed to teach a course at the center and the students found his teaching style to be interesting, energetic, and enthusiastic, said George Autaubo, Two Rivers Native American Training Center administrator and board of trustees member.

"Bunny's keen sense of humor was often used to get his message across and his quick wit was appreciated by all. His approach to life and ministry was an inspira-

please see **RELIGION**..., page 7

Long

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It was a brave new world that many young Indian men were walking into as they entered the military at that time. Many were leaving the comfortable confines of home and friends to see places they never knew existed. Long remembers that, after he enlisted, he did not want a lot of fuss made over him by family members. He simply wanted to leave quietly without any fanfare. As the day approached that he would leave home for good, it seemed as though his family clearly got the message. The country Indian home located near Salt Creek Methodist Church was peaceful and quiet the night before he was to leave. Long got up early the next day; the sun had not yet risen. Having said his good-byes the night before, Long opened the fence gate and proceeded to leave his home forever. After walking several yards, he took one last glance at the old homestead and was surprised to see his mother waving good-bye to him.

Long would become a U.S. Marine and serve his country in the Pacific. He would see some of the most fearsome battles in places like the island area of Guam. "It seemed at that time in my life, I really came to rely on scripture," he says with a laugh. Even in this dark time in his life, Long saw how much his fellow man needed spiritual guidance.

After leaving the military and returning to civilian life, Long would fulfill the call of serving in the Methodist church. After six decades of serving in that capacity, Long has seen firsthand how the Indian Methodist churches have changed. It is especially evident in the way Indian people came together for church services during the weekend. "It seemed like every weekend was like a camping experience," says Long. "We would move in on Friday, stay until Monday morning — you could hear the wagons pulling out, going to their home[s]. Fridays was for catching up with one another since the previous week. We lived north of the church; we would report any sicknesses or re-dedications. Fridays was also fasting day and to give testimonials and sing until night. Saturdays was for getting together for more singing, but mostly Saturdays was getting things ready for Sunday. My grandfather, Thomas Long, was the pastor and he decided everything. He would say 'do your cooking on Saturday, there was to be no work on Sundays.' So we ate cold potatoes and cold meat, but then later on we got hot meals after he let them heat up the food."

Although Long admits his grandfather was strong in his rules, he also held deep compassion for his flock. "Thomas Long put up the money to build a church building back in 1921 that still stands. I tell people at Salt Creek that this building and I are the same age." On March 16 Harry Long will celebrate his 82nd birthday.

Although Long has seen the Indian Methodist church arrive at its own traditions, he acknowledges that many trends today were started out of the ceremonial grounds or as Long says — the "stomp religion."

"One thing Salt Creek still does, like when I was growing up — the women sit on one side and the men on the other, however it's open to families that want to sit together. At first the old people didn't quite take to it, but they've gotten used to it. I like it, because it says we are for change." When asked how he thinks this old tradition started, Long said it was from the influence of the ceremonial ground. "The men were the only ones allowed to sit under the brush arbors out there in the circle, and women on the outside of it, and the men announce the singing and dancing, just like in the church where the deacons carry out the plans."

Although many Indian people today attend either the church or the ceremonial grounds exclusively. Long has seen how the two have coexisted in times past. "My grandfather had duel activities, when he got to where he couldn't get around too much, he took the medicine and fasted. Some of the other preachers came out of that stomp religion and they didn't have a problem with it. It didn't make a difference, they complemented each other and I believe that too. However, when the missionaries came along, they said you got to put away the songs, and dances, and medicines and your old Indian ways if you are going to be a Christian, but a lot of the older ones didn't put it away. However, it was the younger ones that got brainwashed and some of the younger preachers after that were really hard on downgrading the stomp religion, the ceremonial ways."

Long, whose clan is Wotko says he is still called to officiate at weddings, funerals, and revivals from time to time. He says one important philosophy has always helped and recommends it to anyone considering entering the ministry — "love the people; always love the people."

Embezzlement

continued from page 1

Barnett, 23, allegedly altered accounting documents to conceal his theft of cash payments for tribal car tags.

A jury trial is scheduled to be held for Barnett on April 1 in the U.S. Eastern District Court of Oklahoma. He faces a maximum punishment of imprisonment of up to five years and/or a fine of up to $250,000.

Notices

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all of Creek County; and Sharee Francis of McIntosh County.

The intent of the program is to involve youngsters in a 4-H livestock project while providing the opportunity for learning responsibility through hands-on involvement.

The intent of the Muscogee Nation 4-H program is to provide youth development opportunities for Native American youth who reside within tribal boundaries and have not previously been involved in 4-H. Enrollment is open to youth ranging in ages nine to 19 who reside within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Youth ages five to eight can also be involved in a non-competitive manner as Cloverbuds.

The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, or status as a veteran, and is an equal opportunity employer.

To make a donation or for more information, call Littlefield at 1 (800) 482-1979 or (918) 756-8700, ext. 610.

Influenza available at Claremore Indian Hospital

CLAREMORE —Influenza vaccine is available at Claremore Indian Hospital through March.

Influenza can be prevented with this safe, effective vaccine, said Ellen D. Wolfe, CIH immunization coordinator. Yearly influenza vaccine if recommended for: individuals ages 50 years and older; individuals at least six months of age with chronic illness; pregnant women; and individuals ages six months to 18 years that are receiving chronic aspirin therapy. Influenza vaccine is also recommeded for household members of high-risk persons and anyone who wishes to reduce the likelihood of influenza.

An influenza clinic is held at Claremore Indian Hospital from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and will be available through March.

Council house hosting monthly book discussions

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House Museum is currently hosting a series of monthly book discussions concerning books written about Muscogee people.

These monthly discussions will cover the range of Muscogee culture — religion, history, politics, education, art, poetry — and anything the participants want to discuss. It is hoped that by having these sessions participants will gain a broad view of books written about the Muscogee people by both Muscogee and non-Muscogee authors.

The sessions began in February and will be held on Saturday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. through the early summer at the Creek Council House Museum, 106 W. 6th St. The sessions are being moderated by Dr. James Treat, a Muscogee citizen from the University of Oklahoma Honors College. The discussions are open to anyone who enjoys reading about Muscogee history and engaging in discussion about books concerning this content. The only cost associated with participation is to purchase the a copy of the "book of the month."

"It is indeed a very exciting time that we live in. The possibility that we can begin to control what and how things are said about us just excites me to no end. That this may bring us together as a community is good for all and this will hopefully fill some of that need," said Ted Isham, Creek Council House Museum Curator.

For more information, call Isham at (918) 756-2324.

Religion

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tion to many people. He enjoyed working with the students, equipping and training leaders with a solid base of Biblical knowledge, and encouraging them to find their true gifts and calling," said Autaubo.

He was ordained in 1979 and was the pastor of Yardeka Indian Baptist Church for 14 years. Hill received an associate of arts degree from Haskell Indian Junior College, a bachelor of science degree in education from the University of Kansas and a master of science in degree in education from Emporia Kansas State University. Hill passed away on June 17, 1999.

Individuals that would like to contribute to the memorial scholarship fund in memory of Hill, may call or write: (918) 366-6735 or write; Two Rivers Native American Training Center, P.O. Box 97, Bixby, OK 74008.

Citizen completes mission trips

AURORA, Mo. — Eric Willis has been using his flute to ministering to American Indians during mission trips he has taken to the Hopi, Navajo, and Sioux reservations over the last year.

The Verona, Mo. tribal citizen and his son, Josiah, along with other members of Lighthouse Christian Church, completed their second mission trip to a Navajo reservation in August.

"We saw unsaved chiefs and Native Americans at the Lakota Sioux reservation listen to the flute as tears streamed down their faces. I believe God has blessed Brother Eric with this gift for this reason," wrote Belinda Owens, Eagle's Nest Ministries President, in a church update.

Willis is a music teacher at Lighthouse Christian Academy. He is the son of Gary Glenn Clinton of Gainesville, Texas, the grandson of Woodrow "Woody" Clinton of Slick, and the great-grandson of the late Wilson Clinton. Willis is also a descendant of Ahtata.

Program	Receipts	Budgets	Encumbered	Expended	Balance
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	2,316.00	263,547.00	2,237.00	0.00	261,310.00
CN SALES TAX	26,850.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BINGO RESERVE	2,030,735.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TREASURY	706,418.00	27,340.00	704,902.00	5,803.00	(683,365.00)
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	960.00	57,709.00	0.00	0.00	57,709.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	230,110.00	1,507,302.00	385,444.00	22,477.00	1,099,381.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	13,384.00	2,249,805.00	378,712.00	7,102.00	1,863,991.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	514,185.00	2,904,272.00	667,391.00	34,610.00	2,202,271.00
RAMAH CONTRACT SUPPORT	5,222.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONSUMER LOANS	4,044.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CREEK NATION BINGO	1,308,816.00	5,775,629.00	1,249,295.00	77,053.00	4,449,281.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	919,750.00	167,279.00	88,963.00	23,455.00	54,861.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	281,972.00	0.00	29,585.00	0.00	(29,585.00)
BOK SETTLEMENT	2,191.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	300.00	0.00	725.00	0.00	(725.00)
HOLDENVILLE COMMUNITY	17,319.00	0.00	1,264.00	0.00	(1,264.00)
A.G. EDWARDS	49,382.00	0.00	3,350.00	0.00	(3,350.00)
CODIFICATION	766.00	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
4-H CLUB	100.00	0.00	2,075.00	0.00	(2,075.00)
READING IS FUNDAMENTAL	3,477.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRIBAL BUDGET	295,774.00	318,376.00	21,475.00	3,294.00	293,607.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC.	141.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	41.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	366,171.00	1,229,282.00	411,870.00	189,477.00	627,935.00
HEALTH EDUCATION	4,347.00	43,180.00	10,795.00	0.00	32,385.00
WIA-TITLE I	52,021.00	55,932.00	21,284.00	4,320.00	30,328.00
SUMMER YOUTH '00	6,392.00	6,404.00	6,390.00	0.00	14.00
WIA-TITLE I '01	150,347.00	616,016.00	146,632.00	1,788.00	467,596.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '01	44,353.00	175,612.00	36,899.00	1,167.00	137,546.00
WELFARE TO WORK	30,350.00	57,208.00	25,388.00	0.00	31,820.00
JTPA TITLE IV-A	18,742.00	48,657.00	3,913.00	20,177.00	24,567.00
SUMMER YOUTH '99	23,743.00	5,158.00	2,046.00	580.00	2,532.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	23,947.00	40,392.00	20,027.00	0.00	20,365.00
HUD-MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	0.00	446,906.00	0.00	446,906.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '00	11,298,934.00	13,561,751.00	192,587.00	1,036,246.00	12,332,918.00
HUD-SAPULPA CLINIC	0.00	750,000.00	0.00	0.00	750,000.00
HUD-ROSS '01	0.00	239,873.00	0.00	0.00	239,873.00
HUD-DRUG ELIMINATION	0.00	550,142.00	0.00	0.00	550,142.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	4,431,273.00	3,900,741.00	120,857.00	1,508,241.00	2,271,643.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	7,475,191.00	6,757,765.00	170,890.00	972,011.00	5,614,864.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '00	12,998.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CCDBG '00	52,154.00	25,220.00	21,522.00	2,596.00	1,102.00
HEAD START '00	5,890.00	0.00	7,483.00	0.00	(7,483.00)
TITLE IV-B '00	26,629.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '00	24,222.00	25,486.00	445.00	1,038.00	24,003.00
LIHEAP '01	2,746.00	45,300.00	566.00	0.00	44,734.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '01	46,560.00	146,009.00	50,015.00	16,638.00	79,356.00
CCDBG - DISCRETIONARY	328,140.00	401,038.00	303,911.00	624.00	96,503.00
CCDBG - MANDATORY	183,378.00	498,012.00	71,315.00	9,022.00	417,675.00
HEADSTART '01	433,684.00	649,544.00	377,777.00	93,960.00	177,807.00
TITLE IV-B '01	54,455.00	169,881.00	58,435.00	15,650.00	95,796.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '01	46,894.00	255,044.00	51,871.00	32,703.00	170,470.00
LIHEAP '02	0.00	98,923.00	0.00	226.00	98,697.00
CCDBG-MANDATORY '02	224,253.00	2,510,213.00	231,969.00	36,140.00	2,242,104.00
HEAD START '02	0.00	0.00	109,114.00	23,074.00	(132,188.00)
CCDBG-MANDATORY '99	616.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '01	63,015.00	8,444.00	4,729.00	0.00	3,715.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '02	69,838.00	414,000.00	75,207.00	3,986.00	334,807.00
FEMA INCOME	659.00	79,918.00	41,177.00	0.00	38,741.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	233.00	0.00	436.00	0.00	(436.00)
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	143,300.00	0.00	25,596.00	0.00	(25,596.00)
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	47,102.00	0.00	11,544.00	25,500.00	(37,044.00)
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	1,845.00	0.00	2,046.00	0.00	(2,046.00)
ELECTION BD PROG INCOME	179.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	717.00	0.00	1,085.00	0.00	(1,085.00)
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	2,444.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FOOD DIST. PROG. INCOME	684.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COMMUNITY DEV. PROG. INC.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LIGHTHORSE PROG. INCOME	49.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE INTEREST	4,034.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVIDING OPP. WITH ALGEBRA	7,265.00	40,542.00	6,567.00	1,956.00	32,019.00
DOE-LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
DOE-LIBRARY TECH GRANT	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	3,450,713.00	5,185,896.00	1,196,650.00	20,128.00	3,969,118.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '00	124.00	20,521.00	7,413.00	0.00	13,108.00
DOI-ENVIRN CLEAN-UP	0.00	6,469.00	0.00	0.00	6,469.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	4,037.00	620,637.00	234,588.00	5,400.00	380,649.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.'00	0.00	56,394.00	0.00	0.00	56,394.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '01	558.00	14,447.00	1,682.00	0.00	12,765.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '01	10,372.00	476,875.00	288,841.00	8,179.00	179,855.00
EUFAULA DORM '01	24,857.00	878,112.00	161,865.00	34,754.00	681,493.00
LAMAR ROAD	0.00	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
IRR SPECIAL PLANNING	0.00	6,521.00	0.00	0.00	6,521.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
LITTLE CUSSETH CHURCH RD	0.00	158,962.00	0.00	0.00	158,962.00
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	210.00	650,000.00	241,901.00	345,709.00	62,390.00
THEWARLE CHURCH ROAD	0.00	250,000.00	0.00	200,398.00	49,602.00
PORTER ROAD	250,239.00	497,280.00	338,619.00	2,875.00	155,786.00
OLD BIXBY ROAD	2,947.00	917,202.00	2,946.00	744,984.00	169,272.00
SALEM ROAD	0.00	350,000.00	0.00	250,000.00	100,000.00
SKELLY/HASKELL ROAD	0.00	752,955.00	0.00	0.00	752,955.00
METHODIST CHURCH ROAD	0.00	195,000.00	0.00	0.00	195,000.00
HECTORVILLE ROAD	0.00	1,289,655.00	0.00	0.00	1,289,655.00
SUMMIT SOUTH ROAD	0.00	202,277.00	0.00	0.00	202,277.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	117,399.00	3,751,439.00	116,419.00	144,700.00	3,490,320.00
EUFAULA DORM '97	254.00	88,638.00	87,094.00	5,402.00	(3,858.00)
EUFAULA DORM '98	9.00	882.00	0.00	0.00	882.00
EUFAULA DORM '99	1,139.00	142,071.00	4,861.00	9,684.00	127,526.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPRO '99	2,316.00	16,576.00	0.00	0.00	16,576.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	472,416.00	623,721.00	522,093.00	68,771.00	32,857.00
WATER QUALITY	0.00	8,267.00	521.00	0.00	7,746.00
TRIBAL RESOURCES (COPS)	0.00	1,262.00	0.00	0.00	1,262.00
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE	476.00	56,568.00	0.00	0.00	56,568.00
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY	4,583.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	56,021.00	229,125.00	39,412.00	160.00	189,553.00
DRUG COURT '01	2,674.00	137,629.00	3,124.00	914.00	133,591.00
DRUG COURT '99	0.00	49,490.00	398.00	0.00	49,092.00
EPA	14,580.00	111,853.00	15,061.00	4,891.00	91,901.00
MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	9,029.00	1,615,842.00	844,189.00	771,653.00	0.00
COMMUNITY CENTERS PROJ	829.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRAVEL PLAZA ENTERPRISE	256,356.00	435,500.00	435,500.00	0.00	0.00
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	4,624.00	0.00	(1,786.00)	0.00	1,786.00
LIGHTHORSE SERVICES	17,080.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	21,273.00	0.00	4,369.00	45,031.00	(49,400.00)
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	8,616.00	0.00	2,654.00	0.00	(2,654.00)
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	4,622.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NEIL CAMPBELL SCHOLARSHIP	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	113,505.00	817,027.00	112,833.00	13,430.00	690,764.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	1,044,437.00	2,238,712.00	475,609.00	572,534.00	1,190,569.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	19,770.00	107,212.00	14,548.00	0.00	92,664.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	140,938.00	73,000.00	7,328.00	2,058.00	63,614.00
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	427,844.00	0.00	415,484.00	0.00	(415,484.00)
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	594.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	(500.00)
EUFAULA DORM SCHOLARSHIP	1,504.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	**38,611,007.00**	**70,271,269.00**	**11,732,522.00**	**7,869,475.00**	**50,669,272.00**

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending Dec. 31, 2001
Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending June 30, 2001 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditures, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending June 30, 2001. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending June 30, 2001.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of Dec. 31, 2001.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

The Muscogee Nation News

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Bill proposes to move housing programs under administration of Nation

OKMULGEE — A bill that has the potential to move the primary responsibility for administration of Creek Nation Housing Authority programs under the Muscogee Nation is being looked at by joint committee of the National Council.

The intent of the legislation is to establish a tribal housing division which would: provide safe and sanitary dwellings for low income families; alleviate the shortage of quality dwellings for these families; and provide employment through the construction, improvement, repair, etc., of these dwellings.

The bill asserts that it is in the best interests of the Nation to exercise primary responsibility for the management of affordable housing programs for its citizens. Muscogee Nation has been the recipient of Indian Housing Block Grant funds awarded by the U.S. Department of Urban and Housing Development — in accordance with the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1990 — since 1997.

If approved, the bill would not entirely dismantle the Creek Nation Housing Authority, but leave it to operate limited housing functions as an agency of the Nation. Written delegation of authority by the principal chief would allow the authority to perform functions including: maintaining title to all property previously acquired to maintain housing activities in its area of operation; maintaining inventory of property acquired with Indian Housing Block Grant funds or program income; and conveying titles to real property for eligible program participants.

A meeting addressing the legislation, which has been assigned to the Council's Tribal Affairs and Business and Governmental committees, will be held at 6:30 p.m., March 26 in the office of the National Council.

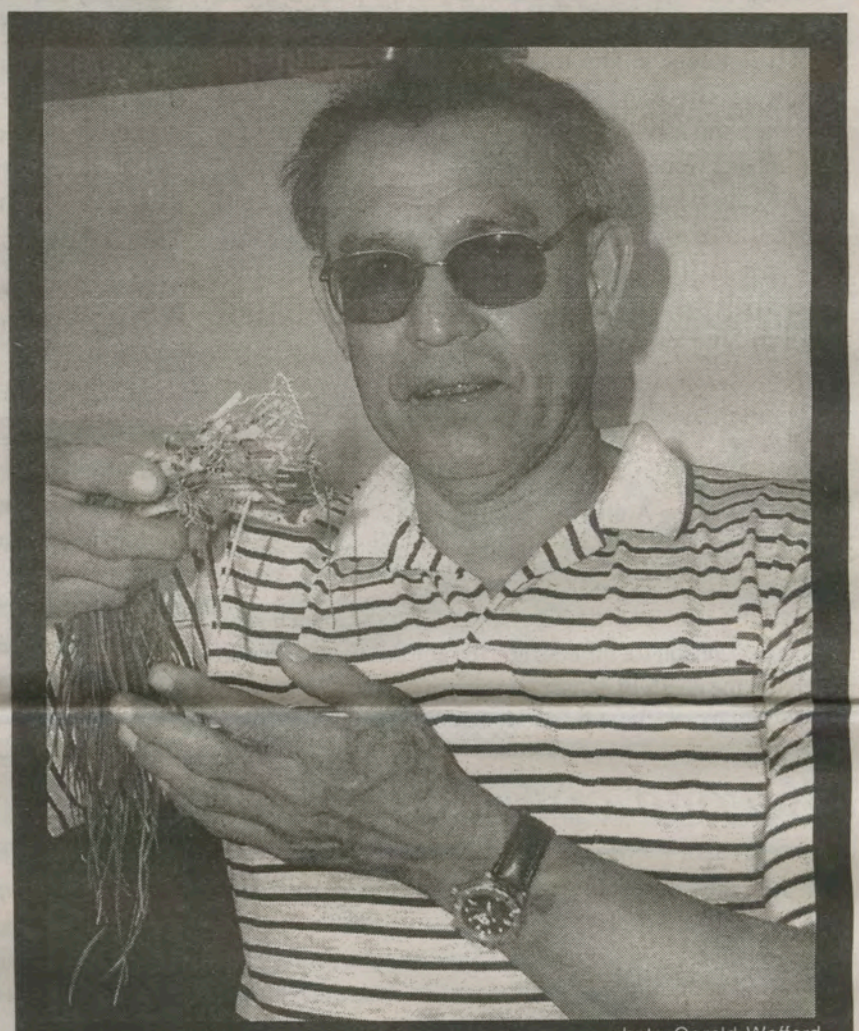

photo Gerald Wofford

Johnie Hicks, of the Okfuskee area, displays tafvmpece. Hicks provides many area Maskokvlke with their wild onions during the season.

Muscogee People

Muscogee grandma plays professional womens' football for "Tulsa Tornadoes"

by Gerald Wofford

Are you ready for some football!

What?

How could that be. It's almost spring — the time for green grass, planting gardens, and baseball, isn't it?

It's not if you're Muscogee (Creek) citizen Debbie Ridge. She is one of many women ready to tee up the pigskin for the yearly Independent Womens' Football League football season.

At age 46, Ridge is the oldest woman on the team that ranges in ages 24 to 37. Affectionately called "grandma" by her teammates — Ridge is, in actuality, a grandma to five youngsters. She became intrigued with the idea of playing professional womens' football after watching a sports segment on a local news channel that spotlighted the league. The local team, the "Tulsa Tornadoes," was recruiting players for their team. Ridge decided to try out and made the cut.

The league, headquartered in Texas, has other teams in Memphis, Oklahoma City and Austin. The season starts April 6. The games will be played at the Charles Page High School Football Field in Sand Springs. The league's season will culminate with a championship game to be played on July 6.

Ridge

When Ridge first tried out for the team, she had hoped that her athletic skills would be the ultimate factor in deciding her place on the team — that her skills would be enough to impress Head Coach Darrick Wolfe, also a Muscogee citizen. Ridge found out that her athletic ability, along with another personality trait, was the clincher — "probably because I'm mean," she laughs

"As you know, there is a lot of hitting and running involved, but I didn't realize how much the game of football is played by developing the right techniques. My son, Edward, played high school football and he has helped me develop the right moves to play. Plus I also wear his number — 72."

Ridge is a utility player on the team; she is asked to play many positions from defensive end to noseguard to tight end and even offensive center — perhaps because she is a natural all-around athlete. When not hitting the gridiron, Ridge also plays slow and fast pitch softball during the year. "I can outrun some of the younger girls

please see **RIDGE...**, page 3

Letters to the editor

Woman appreciates principal chief's assistance

Editor:

On behalf of my mother, Eleanor Harper I want to thank Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver for his help with a recent problem with Creek Nation Housing Authority.

A leaky roof can cause a lot of problems, such as weakened sheetrock. When the sheetrock is over the front door it's hard to get into or out of the home. Perhaps that isn't an emergency to Daniel Wind or Beverly Sumka, both of housing management. They wouldn't even give my 81 year old mother — who has had a heart attack and is disabled — a hearing. Mr. Wind turned a deaf ear to my pleas to repair the roof.

I had no one to turn to, so I called Chief Beaver — I know he is busy and you could have handed this off. I appreciate him handling it quickly. If he hadn't taken this on, my mother would still be living in a house with a leaky roof.

As Chief, I'm sure he hears mostly complaints, but I wanted to let him know I appreciate all he did for my mother. It's pleasant to walk into the house and not have to scoot past a pole that is holding up sheetrock.

Karen Shurley, Wewoka

Lady thanks tribal programs for assisting mother

Editor:

We would like to express our appreciation to the Creek Nation Housing Authority who made Lillie Thomas' home handicapped accessible. It helped make her life much easier during the time she spent in her home.

We also want to thank Okmulgee District Council Rep. Keeper Johnson for his help and the commitment he has to serving the needs of Muscogee citizens.

We appreciate the community health representatives who transported her to dialysis. She was shown kindness and consideration. We thank Cindy Gilks, CHR manager, for her cooperation and willingness to help. It is our sincere hope that they will be able to get a second van with a lift to accommodate all of their wheelchair clients which seems to be growing.

Thanks to Dr. Lois Beard and the Okmulgee Health Center for all the help and care they offered to Lillie through the years.

We appreciate Mike Shaw, social services, for his helpfulness and friendliness in assisting us with the applications for burial assistance and the food voucher.

We thank Okmulgee Indian Community for the assistance they provided toward burial expenses also.

We would also like to acknowledge the tribal driveways program and its manager, Bob Arrington, for the work they did in digging the grave. We also appreciate Curtis Hicks, deputy director or tribal affairs, for his assistance.

The list seems endless and we thank God that all of the assistance was made possible.

Lillian Thomas, Okmulgee

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Board notice

The Nation's Citizenship Code has been amended and codified. It is very important that each citizen be familiar with the Citizenship Code. Some of the most important Citizenship Code requirements are listed below.

The Nation maintains a policy against dual enrollment. This issue is addressed at Section 401 of the Citizenship Code and reads as follows:

Section 401. Eligibility

As provided in the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at Article II, Section 2, "Persons eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall consist of Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose names appear on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137), and persons who are lineal descendants of those Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose names appear on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137); (except that an enrolled member of another Indian tribe, nation, band or pueblo shall not be eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.)"

Resignation of enrollment from the Nation is addressed at Section 413 of the Code and now reads as follows:

Section 413. Resignation of Enrollment

A. Resignation. Resignations of enrollment shall become effective thirty (30) days after the enrollment card is returned, or twenty (20) days after required forms are executed, whichever is later. Any enrolled citizen of the Muscogee Nation may resign their enrollment in the Muscogee Nation by:

1. Presenting their enrollment card to the Citizenship Board.

2. Executing forms prescribed by the Citizenship Board which indicate that the resignation is voluntary.

B. Resignation irrevocable. The resignation of a member over the age of eighteen shall be an absolute and irrevocable resignation effective upon the date of receipt by the Citizenship Board Office.

C. Resignation of Minors. Resignation of the

please see **CITIZENSHIP**..., page 8

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

I found a dried out persimmon seed yesterday in my barnyard. I immediately got a rock and broke it open to get my latest weather forecast. Sure enough, there in the split persimmon seed was the perfect image of a rake. You will either find a rake or a shovel image in all broken seeds. The rake is a sure sign of an early spring and gardening time.

Speaking of gardens, we have had many wild onion dinners this year with several more to follow. Concharty will probably be one of the last and will be in early April.

To all my many friends from the ceremonial grounds — as I promised — we are now working to solve the environmental problems at Kellyville Indian Community Center. After the work is completed, we will need help from the National Council to appropriate money to repair and replace the needed bathrooms and kitchen. I fully support the ceremonial people and realize that you need a location during the winter months.

Many tribal citizens know very little about tribal government operations. One such division is the housing authority. The Creek Nation Housing Authority is an Oklahoma state chartered authority. The board of commissioners of the housing authority follows state law in their meetings and, if you'll notice, all housing authority vehicles have Oklahoma State license tags. If you would like for this housing authority to be tribally controlled, please call your National Council representatives and state your opinion. If you believe our citizens would be better served by a tribal operation and directed by tribal administration, please notify all concerned. If you believe otherwise, please state otherwise.

If anyone is interested in Creek language, there are many classes being conducted throughout the Nation. Also, one class for learning Creek songs and hymns is being conducted by Mr. **Alfred Berryhill**.

Congratulations to all the Creek athletes and their basketball teams. Seems like every district had a team in the state tournament and Sequoyah-Tahlequah represented all the tribes with great performances.

Quote of the month: *The all purpose remover —used in small amounts, alcohol will remove stains and spots from clothing. However, if used in sufficient quantity, alcohol will remove the clothes themselves from men, women, and children — as well as the furniture from the home, the rugs from the floor, food from the table, lining from the stomach, vision from the eyes and judgement from the mind. It can remove reputations, jobs, friends, happiness, sanity, freedom, and the ability to live with others and eventually even life itself. As a remover of things, alcohol has no equal.*

Mvto.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at: a Jan. 5 special session and a Jan. 22 special session.

Jan. 5 special session

Absent were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee District; **Harley Little**, Muskogee District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee District; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; and **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Fields, Tukvpvtce, and **Nichols**, Okmulgee, arrived, making attendance at 20 present with six absent.

The Council:

• voted (19-0-0) in favor of carrying forward the 11th Session rules of procedures of the National Council until amendments are made and brought forth for Council approval;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Sandra T. Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ronald Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

Chupco, Muskogee, **Lewis**, Okmulgee, and **Pickering**, McIntosh, arrived — making attendance at 23 present with three absent — and were sworn into office by Muscogee Nation District Court Judge **Patrick Moore**; and

• voted (21-1-0) in favor of adopt the process of general election of speaker, second speaker, and sergeant at arms;

voting no was: **Aaron**, Creek

Jan. 22 special session

Absent were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Harley Little**, Muskogee District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District

Nichols, Okmulgee District, and **Watson**, Okfuskee District, arrived, making attendance at 20 present with six absent;

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Hufft, Tulsa, and **Johnson**, Okmulgee, arrived, making attendance at 22 with four being counted absent;

In the order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) National Council Act 02-022, authorizing a supplementary appropriation for the 2001 school clothing assistance program;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Sandra T. Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ronald Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner; and

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 02-023, authorizing a budget modification for the office of child care fiscal year 2000 budget.

In items for consideration, the Council:

• voted unanimously (21-0-0) in favor of taking from the table all legislation during the Jan. 8 special session to be released to the committees for action.

In other business, the Council:

• failed (3-18-0) to approve a motion to meet as committee-of-the-whole to discuss Tribal Resolution 02-03 and NCA 02-025.

Notices

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., April 3 and 17;

• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., April 4 and 18;

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., April 4 and 18;

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., April 2 and 16; and

• Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., April 2.

Dallas Intertribal Center holding career fair

DALLAS — The Dallas Inter-tribal Center is holding its seventh annual career fair from 1 to 7 p.m., March 26 at the Dallas Inter-tribal Center, 209 E. Jefferson Blvd.

The purpose of the fair is to provide information to the community about the various educational and employment opportunities available to those individuals residing in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Those attending are advised to arrive with resumes and dressed appropriately for interviews.

"Within the past 12 month we have provided employment, training, and supportive services to over 320 Creek members living in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex," according to Kenneth P. Martinez, Workforce Investment Act Director, Dallas Inter-tribal Center

The career fair is collaborative effort of Dallas Intertribal Center's Employment and Training Department, the

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Ridge

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on the team," she says.

Ridge has already been participating in training camp for two months now. She lift weights, stretches and has been conditioning herself for the upcoming season. Although traveling and equipment fees are covered by the team, Ridge and other teammates still have to cover individual expenses like gas and time. "You have to be dedicated; you have to really want to play football at this point in your life because just about everybody on this team has children and they have a life besides football." Ridge's life away from football includes being involved with Volunteers of America, a group that assists people with disabilities. Ridge also does volunteer work for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center by helping preparing dinners there each month.

Ridge welcomes the unique opportunity she will be facing. After all, it isn't everyday that a 46 year olSd grandmother decides to enter the realm of professional football.

"I psyche myself up, but I have fun with it. This is something I want to do. I've come too far to quit."

Citizenship

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membership of a child under eighteen may be made only by a parent possessing legal custody of the child or by the legal guardian of the child and shall be a conditional resignation, conditioned on the member's acceptance for enrollment in another tribe, in which case the resignation shall be effective on the date of the enrollment in the other tribe.

It is very important to the Citizenship Board that all citizens provide the Board with their current address as well as their current name. Section 412 and Section 502 of the Code address this issue and read as follows:

Section 412. Citizens advised of Responsibility in Current Information

The Citizenship Board shall advise each certified Citizen in writing, in Muscogee and in English, of their responsibility to provide new information to the Citizenship Board any time they move or change their name.

Section 502. Change of Address

Any change in address must be reported to the Citizenship Board, and the citizen's address in their enrollment records shall be updated.

The Citizenship Board encourages all citizens to read the Citizenship Code. The full text of the Citizenship Code appears in NCA 01-135 (and will appear in the MCN Code of Laws, Title 7), and may be obtained from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council by calling 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 346.

February District Court filings

Civil Actions:

• The Cadle Company vs. Robert Fixico and Rhonda Hill
• Morris State Bank vs. Marsha Harjo
• Tower Loans vs. Loretta Harjo
• Car-Mart of Tulsa vs. Marcia Harrison
• Royal Finance vs. Marsha Harjo

Protective Orders:

• Roy and Angelina Stoddard vs. Mark Blosch
• Roy and Angelina Stoddard vs. Mark Blosch
• Bernadine Bernard vs. Shawn Tabbytite
• Felicia Washington vs. Theophas Mayberry

Criminal-misdemeanor:

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Eugene Harrod
— count 1: disorderly conduct

Traffic:

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. David Louie Jordan
— count 1: disorderly conduct
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jessie Wilson Jr.
— count 1: transporting open container
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jessie Wilson Jr.
— count 1: driving without required registration

Notices

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Alabama-Coushatta Indian Tribal Council, the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo, The American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Texas, and the Dallas Public Schools American Indian Education Program.

The Dallas Intertribal Center Employment and Training Department is an Indian and Native American WIA grantee funded by Department of Labor Division of Indian and Native American Programs.

For more information, call (214) 941-1050 or (972) 263-0313, ext. 221, 223, or 224.

Annual symposium on American Indian being held

TAHLEQUAH — The 30th Annual Symposium on the American Indian is being held April 9 through 13 at Northeastern State University at its University Center Ballroom.

On April 9 a Indian heritage and culture day will be held for public schools.

April 9

• 9 a..m . to 4 p.m — arts and crafts, UC ballroom;

• 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Native American book display, UC bookstore; Cherokee Seminaries photo display, UC, room 222

• 9:30 to 10 a.m. — opening ceremonies, UC ballroom;

• 10 to 10:45 a.m. — Vincent Craig, Navajo singer, songwriter, motivational speaker, humorist and caroonist-illustrator, UC ballroom;

• 10:45 to 11:15 a.m. — Sen. Kelly Haney, UC room 222;

• 11:15 a.m. to noon — "College Life from the Native American Student Perspective" panel discussion, UC ballroom;

• 1 to 3 p.m — Native American Student Association cultural games and activities, Beta Field;

• 3 p.m. — opening reception and Native American student awards ceremony, NSU Alumni Center; and

• 7 p.m – Vincent Craig "The Mutton Man" concert, university center ballroom

April 10

• 9 a..m . to 4 p.m — arts and crafts, UC ballroom;

• 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Native American book display, UC bookstore; Cherokee Seminaries photo display, UC room 222

• 11 a.m. to 3 p.m — American Indian veterans' art display by Talmadge Davis, UC room 223

• 9:30 a.m. to noon — opening ceremonies, Seminary Hall front lawn (in case of inclement weather it will be held at NSU Performing Arts Auditorium);

• noon — traditional dinner, D.D. Etchieson Indian Methodist church, 410 North street, cost is $5;

• noon — "Navajo Code Talkers: The Epic story" video, UC room, 224;

•1:30 to 2:30 p.m — "Life Aboard a U.S. Naval Destroyer," NSU NET Auditorium;

• 2:30 to 3 p.m. — "Duty, Honor, and Country," NSU NET auditorium;

• 3 to 4 p.m. — Last Man's Club , NSU NET Auditorium;

• 4:30 p.m — NASA crowning of Miss NASA, Seminary Hall Conference Room; and

• 8 p.m. — NASA banquet, Morgan Room

April 11

• 9 a..m . to 4 p.m — arts and crafts, UC ballroom;

• 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Native American book display, UC bookstore; Cherokee Seminaries photo display, UC room 222

• 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. — "Relocation and the Urban Indian Experience," UC ballroom;

• 10:30 a.m. to noon — "Native American Anthropologists and Ethnohistorians," UC ballroom;

• 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. — lecture by Dr. Jack Forbes, UC ballroom;

• 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. — Legacy of the Cherokees; The Seminary Years, UC ballroom;

• 4 p.m. — reception, John Vaughn Library

April 12

• 9 a..m . to midnight — arts and crafts, UC ballroom;

• 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Native American book display, UC bookstore; Cherokee Seminaries photo display, UC room 222;

• 9 to 10:30 a.m — "Not Alone: Spiro Mounds and the Other Mound Builders in Arklahoma," UC ballroom;

• noon to 1:30 p.m — "Native Influence on Contemporary Fashion" show-luncheon, UC ballroom;

• 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. — "Creating Transformation Through Forgiveness," Frances Jansen, UC room 223;

• 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. — Fourth Annual Sovereignty Symposium, "Tribal Wisdom: Protecting the Environment," UC Redbud Room;

• 4 to 5 p.m. — Region IV American Indian Science and Engineering Society Conference, Holiday Inn Express;

• 9 to 11 p.m — Cherokee stomp dance, NSU Beta Field;

• 6 to 11 p.m. — Inter-tribal Pow Wow, UC ballroom

April 13

• 10 a.m to 5 p.m — Region IV AISES Conference;

• 2 p.m to midnight — arts and crafts, UC ballroom

• 2 to 5 p.m — gourd dance, UC ballroom;

• 6:30 to 11 p.m — Inter-tribal Pow Wow, UC ballroom; and

• 8 to 10 p.m — Mountain Spirit Dancers, NSU Beta Field.

Committee announces festival dates

OKMULGEE — The 28th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held June 14, 15 and 16.

Festival committee members are: Jeff Fife, chair; Curtis Hicks, vice chair; Diane Beasley, secretary; Kathy Guthrie, treasurer; Michael Fish, member; and Edwin Marshall, member.

The committee is seeking individuals that would like to volunteer to coordinate festival events. Individuals that are interested in volunteering may call committee members at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979.

OU holding American Indian symposium

NORMAN — "American Indian Health Today" is the theme of the University of Oklahoma Native American Studies Program's fifth annual American Indian symposium, scheduled for April 10 in the ballroom of Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave.

Dr. Everett Rhoades, Kiowa Tribe, former director of the Indian Health Services and a senior faculty member at the OU Health Sciences Center, will be the keynote speaker.

Invited speakers include: Joe Ferretti, senior vice president and provost; Dr. Kenneth Copeland and Sara Jo Nixon, both of OU Health Sciences Center; Dr. Jeanine Bartolli and Dr. Chuck Grim, both of Indian Health Service; Dr. Dorothy Rhoades, University of Colorado at Seattle, Wash.; Dr. Gloria Teague, Cherokee Nation; and Dr. James Hampton, Association of American Indian Physicians. Invited traditional speakers include: Billy Horse, Kiowa Tribe; Frank Sheridan, Cheyenne Tribe; and Sam Proctor. Muscogee Nation

Thes symposium will include health-related exhibits for information, dissemination, and recruitment and free medical screening in areas such as diabetes and blood pressure.

Registration for the symposium is $75, which includes a luncheon, refreshments and materials. For registration information and accommodations on the basis of disability, call the (405) 325-2312.

Jacobson House holding Indian market

NORMAN — The Jacobson House Native Art Center is holding a two day Indian market from 11 a.m to 6 p.m., May 4 and 5.

Vendors of "Indian related" are being sought. Booth fees ares $25 per day or $40 for both days. For more information, contact the Jacobson House at (405) 366-1667.

Euchee enrollment project to close in early June

SAPULPA — The Euchee Tribe is in the process of conducting membership enrollment with its Euchee Enrollment Project which will be close in June.

It is necessary that membership enrollment be documented by filling out an application with sound genealogical information.

The Euchee tribe, although not federally recognized, have maintained their culture and traditions as Indian people. From the time of removal to Oklahoma in the 1890s from the areas of present-day Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida the Euchee have managed to maintain their identity, according to news release issued by the project..

While many Euchee people are enrolled with other tribes, the Euchee community continues to maintain its cultural and social institutions, including ceremonial beliefs, traditions, and language.

The current number of Euchee Indians is estimated to be at 1000, depending on the degree of blood used, according to the project release.

Tribal members with Euchee ancestry have generally been included on various tribal rolls, especially on the Muscogee

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Tribal 4-H program members enjoy 4-H day at OSU

OKMULGEE — Fourteen delegates from Creek, Okfuskee, and Okmulgee counties recently represented Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H at the second 4-H day which was held at an Oklahoma State University Cowgirls Basketball Game on Feb. 17.

The day began with campus tours given by collegiate 4-H members, ambassadors, and freshman in transition program participants. The group then met OSU mascot "Pistol Pete" and the cheer and pom squad and were given game day T-shirts and a lunch of pizza and soft drinks. Special seating was also made available in Gallagher Iba Arena for 4-H members. After a special halftime show geared toward the visiting 4-H members.

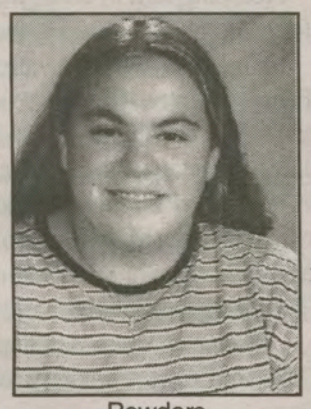
Members are looking forward to their next OSU game day event which is set for April 20 when the OSU Cowgirls softball team plays Baylor University, said Jamie Littlefield, tribal extension educator.

For more information about the tribal 4-H program contact Littlefield at (918) 756-8700, ext. 610 or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 610. Her office is located in the human development building on the tribal capital complex.

Enrollment for the tribal 4-H program is open to youth ranging in ages five to 19 who reside within the boundaries of the Muscogee Nation.

Girl's team makes top ten in national tourney

GARLAND, Texas — Tribal citizen Tiffany Powders and her softball team, the Oklahoma Intensity girls, placed ninth out of 90 teams in the SAS 16U Girls FastPitch National Tournament.


Powders

Powders plays first base and catcher and has a batting average of .351.

The team placed eighth in The Hall of Fame Classic in Oklahoma City in 200, as well as qualifying for the 18U ISA Nationals held in Florida.

Powders is a sophomore at Union Intermediate high School and maintains a 4.0 grade point average. She was inducted into the National Honor Society and named to Who's Who Among American High School Students during her freshman year. She also lettered in softball and played on the Union Varsity Softball Team when it won the state championship in 1999.

She is the great-great granddaughter of the late Joe Beaver, the great-granddaughter of the late Doretha Beaver Stubbs, the granddaughter of Donna Beaver Powders, and the daughter of Dennis Powders, both of Tulsa.

Applications being sought for journalism camp

SAN DIEGO — Native American high school students in grades nine through 12 are being sought to apply for Project Phoenix — an eight-day journalism camp being held June 6 through 13.

After learning the basics of news writing and photojournalism, students will publish a newspaper, "Rising Voices." Participants will also attend the Native American Journalists Association convention to be held in San Diego, Calif.

Fifteen participants will be selected from across the U.S. and Canada. Project Phoenix provides travel expenses, housing and meals, class materials, and a stipend.

The application deadline is March 30.

For an application, call (612) 729-9244 or see www.naja.com.

Indian journalism institute seeks nominations

VERMILLION, S.D. — The American Indian Journalism Institute is offering 25 Native American students the opportunity to train as newspaper reporters, editors, and photographers during June 2 through 21 at the University of South Dakota

To be eligible, students must be enrolled in a college and must have completed their freshman year.

The Freedom Forum Neuharth Center will pay all costs, including: tuition; fees; room and board; and it will give students who successfully complete the program a $500 scholarship/stipend. The college-level course is sanctioned through the university's department of contemporary media and journalism, a nationally accredited journalism department.

Each student will have a single room in a dormitory. Meals will be provided on campus.

Participants may be nominated by educators, mentors or other interested parties. Nomination letters should include brief explanations of why nominees should be accepted into the institute and how they can be contacted. Nomination letters may be sent to: Jack Marsh, director, Freedom Forum Neuharth Center, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD 57069. Nominees will be invited to provide further information about themselves and examples of their writing. Self-nominations and nomination may be e-mailed to: jmarsh@freedomforum.org.

The deadline for nomination letters is April 15.

Students should be able to provide proof of tribal enrollment or lineage, if requested.

For more information, call Marsh at (605) 677-6315.

Eufaula artist's work to be exhibited in Germany

CELLE, Germany — Eufaula artist Jon Tiger will be travelling abroad to represent Indian Territory Gallery at the opening of a two month exhibit in which his artwork will be displayed.

Tiger, along with eight other American Indian artists, will represent the Broken Arrow gallery in the Schlott Castle exhibit in Celle — Tulsa's sister city — from Aug. 1 to Oct.1.

There will be a preview of the exhibit at all five Tulsa Community College campuses on April 5. The local exhibit is sponsored by Tulsa Global Alliance, Tulsa German-American Society, and Tulsa -Celle Committee.

The exhibit is an international exchange under the auspices of the Tulsa-Celle Sister City Partnership.

His work is currently on display at I.T. Gallery, 114 S. Main St. Tiger also had work on display at the Tulsa Indian Art Festival held in February.

Tiger is the chair of the Muscogee Nation Citizenship Board. He is the son of Harriet and the late Yahola Tiger of Eufaula.

Births

Samuel Walter Thomas Butler

OKEMAH — Samuel "Blackberry" Butler was born Dec. 12 to Lisa Little and Vince Butler.

He weighed 7 pounds and one ounce and was 21 inches in length.

Butler

His maternal grandparents are Wanda and Harvey Little of Okemah, his great-grandparents are the late Millie and Buster Little, and he is the great-great-grandson of the late Sam and Hepsey Little.

Paternal grandparents are Nellie Deere of Tulsa and Wesley Butler of Okmulgee.

He is the great-grandson of the late Ellen and Andrew Butler and the great-great-grandson of the late Eddie Samuel and Lucy Harjo Butler.

He has one sister, Sherry.

Josiah Alan Factor

TULSA — Josiah Alan Factor was born Nov. 26 at Hillcrest Medical Center to Daniel and Ellie Factor.

He weighed 10 pounds and 4 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Factor

Maternal grandparents are Della Proctor of Okmulgee and Elliot Barnett of Eufaula.

Paternal grandparents are Noah and Lucinda Factor of Okemah. He is the great-grandson of Wilson and Ina Hicks of Okemah.

He has one older sister, Kaitlyn, age four.

Ashleigh Annette Checote Voss Rudesill

MIDDLETON, R.I. — Ashleigh Annette Checote Voss Rudesill was born Feb. 10 to Charla and Mark Rudesill of Middleton, R.I.

She weighed 9 pounds and 1 ounce and was 20 and one- half inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Imogene and Bob Wilkinson of Lawton. Paternal grandparents are Mrs. and Mrs. Robert Rudesill of Germany. The baby is the great-niece of Jorene and Charlie Coker of Preston.

Birthdays

Girl celebrates sixth birthday with Scooby-Doo

DEL CITY — Jaycie LaRaine Roberts celebrated her sixth birthday on Nov. 16 with a Scooby-Doo party theme.

Roberts

Roberts is the daughter of Jennifer Frye and Jay Roberts.

Her maternal grandparents are Johnny and Marion Bunny Frye of Del City. She is the great-granddaughter of: the late James and Lucille Smith Bunny; Harbie and May Frye of Henryetta; and the late Hepsey Walker Frye.

Her paternal grandmother is Evelyn Greenwood-Wood of Sasakwa. She is the great-granddaughter of Geraldine and the late Virgil Greenwood, Ada.

Nuptials

Washington and John set May wedding

OKLAHOMA CITY — Bill and Wanda Carter of Woodland, Calif.., and Bobby John of Oklahoma City announce the engagement of their daughter, Sheri Lynn John, to Dion Howard Washington, both of Oklahoma City.

Washington and John

The wedding will be held at Best Western Saddleback Inn, 4300 S.W. 3rd St., in Oklahoma City on May 11 at 4 p.m. with Rev. John Buckner officiating. Washington is the son of Rev. John and Darlene Buckner of Okmulgee.

JOSEPH BARNETT

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Joseph "Joe" Barnett were held Feb. 27 at Bristow First Assembly of God with Revs. Woodrow Wilson and Jesse Scott officiating.

Barnett

Wake services were held Feb. 26 at Hutchins-Maples Funeral Home Chapel in Bristow.

He died Feb. 24 at Tulsa Regional Medical Center after a brief illness. He was born Nov. 24, 1929 to James and Lizzie Starr Barnett, between Weleetka and Okemah.

He belonged to the Tiger Clan and Apekv Tribal Town. He attended Euchee Boarding School and Chilocco Indian School, but had lived in the Bristow area most of his life. He enlisted in the Army-Air Force on April 17, 1947 with the 618th AC and WS. He married Eleanor Rachel Wilson in 1954. He worked as a self-employed truck driver, retiring in the 1970s. He enjoyed playing baseball in his younger years and, after he had children, coordinated and coached many of their baseball teams. He enjoyed attending his children and grandchildrens' games as well as staying abreast of Bristow Purple Pirates' standings. Barnett was also an avid bingo player at Bristow Indian Bingo and Stroud. He was a member of Springfield United Methodist Church and an enrolled member of Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; one sister, Norma Jean Waggoner; and two grandsons, Koko DeCosta Jr. and Jordan Barnett.

Survivors include: five sons, Joe Barnett Jr. of Broken Arrow, Justin Barnett, Roger Barnett, David Barnett and Clifford Barnett, all of Bristow; two daughters, Frances Hill and Linda DeCosta, both of Bristow; three brothers, Jacob Barnett and William Barnett, both of Depew, and Edward Barnett of Henryetta; one sister, Lydia Taryole of Bristow; thirteen grandchildren; special friend, Mary Pendergraft of Moore; and numerous relatives and friends.

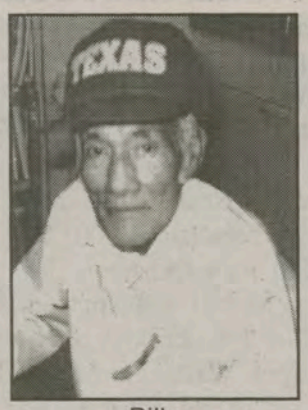
Pallbearers were: Joe Barnett Jr.; Justin Barnett; Roger Barnett; David Barnett; Clifford Barnett; and Jeff Adcock.

Pallbearers were: Daniel Barnett; Jacob Barnett Jr.; Raymond Barnett; Thomas Barnett; Tyrone Barnett; Newman Taryole; Newman Taryole Jr.; Jeremiah Wilson; John Wilson Jr.; and Johnny Wilson

Interment was at the Barnett Family Cemetery, Bristow.

FRANK BILLY

HANNA — Funeral services for Frank Billy were held on Feb. 14 at Trenton Baptist Church with Revs. C. Anderson Fields and Robert Washington officiating.



Billy

He died Feb. 10. at Muskogee Regional Medical Center. Frank was born Feb. 17, 1933 to David and Martha Scott Billy in Hanna.

He attended school at Jones Academy. Billy married Annie Proctor on Dec. 23, 1951 in Hanna. Billy has served as the pastor of the Trenton Baptist Church for 10 years. He was ordained on Sept. 14, 1968.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; two brothers, Eugene and Winston Billy; one sister, Polly Billy; and two children, John Steven Billy and Martha Sue Billy.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; four sons, Daniel Billy of Welty, Thomas James Billy of Checotah, David Leslie Billy of Broken Arrow, and Franklin Timothy Billy of Claremore; four daughters, Daria Ann Hicks, Gracine Susie Hicks, and Lisa Marie Billy, all of Okemah, and Gloria Jean Billy of Checotah; 10 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many relatives and friends.

Casketbearers were: John Grayson Jr.; Oscar Hicks; Terry Hicks; Michael Burgess; Mose Roy Lowe; B.J. Jacobs; Kelly Lowe; and Richard Williamson.

Honorary casketbearers were: Frank Harjo; Bill Sarnie; Melvin Tounwin; Wallace Gambler; and Richard Gambler.

Interment was at Hanna Cemetery.

ALBERT FIELDS

MUSKOGEE — Funeral services for Albert Taylor Fields were held Jan. 3 at the Bradley Belltower Chapel with Revs. Robert Washington and Nellie Allen officiating.

He died at his home on Dec. 30. Fields was born in Braggs on Aug. 8, 1938 to John Fields and Elizabeth Sourjohn Sumpka.

Fields served in the Army for 23. He attended jump school before serving with the 101st Airborne Ranger — Screaming Eagles — during the Vietnam War. He was awarded: the Purple Heart; the Vietnam Campaign Medal; and the Service Accommodation Medal. He retired from the Army in 1988.

Fields is survived by: his children, Sonja Harbaugh of Stigler, Carla Combs of Muskogee, Sherry Fitzpatrick of Black River Falls, Wis., Kimbra Bell of Tahlequah, Randy Fields of Muskogee, and Jackie Fields of DeQueen, Ark.; siblings, Jimmy Fields of Tulsa, Francis Johnons of Tulsa, Lucy Carpitcher of Bristow, Roger Fields of Okmulgee, Janetta Rabbit of Okmulgee, and Paul Sumpka of Muskogee; nine grandchildren; and many other relatives.

Casketbearers include: John Mecco; Bill Johnson Jr.; Bernard Barnowski; Lonnie Carter; Larry Soap; and Robert Hart.

Honorary casketbearers include: Marcy Tiger; Jimmy Fields; Roger Fields; and Paul Sumpka.

Interment was at Fort Gibson National Cemetery in Muskogee.

THEODORE FREEMAN

PONCA CITY — Funeral services for Rev. Theodore "Ted" Freeman were held Jan. 27 at the Ponca Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Allen Colbert officiating.

He died Jan. 24 at Tulsa Regional Medical Center. He was born Aug. 26, 1941 in Talihina to Jesse and Margaret Alexander Freeman.

He attended Euchee Boarding School and graduate from Central High School in Tulsa. Following graduation, he attended Oklahoma State Technical School in Okmulgee. He moved to Ponca City and married Susan Williams on Dec. 9, 1960 at Ponca Indian United Methodist Church. In 1974 he began working at Conoco, starting in the refinery and contracting with Foster Design, Inc. His job took him on many trips to Texas and Colorado, and abroad to Scotland and England. While living in Scotland, he became a member of Inverness Baptist Church and converted to Christianity and eventually become a church deacon. In 1989, the family moved back to Ponca City where he accepted his first pastorate at Fort Oakland Baptist Mission in Tonkawa. In order to spend more time in his pastoral duties, he took early retirement from Conoco in 1991 and then accepted the pastorate at Ponca Indian Baptist Church. He was active in the Kay Baptist Association and various other Baptist organizations. He was a former chairman of the Ponca City United Way. He loved the Lord and enjoyed preaching. He also enjoyed: his grandchildren and watching them play football and baseball; fishing; and putting up teepees and preparing for Ponca powwow.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; one brother, Richard Freeman; and a grandson, Sean Paul Murphy.

He is survived by: his wife of the home; two daughters, Felicia Murphy of Seattle, Wash., and Margaret Washington of Ponca City; two sons, Theodore Freeman Jr. and Jason Freeman, both of Ponca City; four brothers, William Freeman and Pat Freeman, both of Tahlequah, John Freeman of Tulsa and Jesse Freeman Jr. of Moore; two sisters, Mary Arkeketa of Sand Springs and Donna Fae Martin of Tulsa; 11 grandchildren; and many relatives.

Casketbearers include: Harrison Freeman; Ian Freeman; Talle Red Corn; Junior Page; Albert Black; and Danny Page.

Honorary casketbearers include: Pat Freeman Jr.; John Williams Jr.; Eric Freeman; Mike Cornell; Kent Williams; Bruce Johnson; Michael Johnson; Jace Williams; Mitchell Freeman; Scott Freeman; Joshua Murphy; Israel Washington; Kobe Washington; and Jesse Washington.

Interment was at the Ponca Tribal Cemetery.

EVERETT LAWRENCE

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Everett Ray Lawrence were held Feb. 22 at the Eufaula First Baptist Church with Rev. Bill Mitchell officiating.

Lawrence died Feb. 20. He was born Sept. 15, 1937 in Eufaula to George Raymond and Mettie Vera Cagle Lawrence.

After graduating from Eufaula High School, he continued his education and received a degree in mechanics. He married Doris Kathleen Logan on Aug. 17, 1957 in Tulsa.He was a farmer and rancher. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and gardening. He was a Christian, a deacon, song leader, Sunday School director, and teacher for Vivian Baptist Church. He enjoyed music.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; one brother, Hershel; and one sister, Lois McQuay.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; two sons, Ronald Everett Lawrence of Owasso and Anthony Ray Lawrence of Checotah; two daughters, Dedrah Gail Barton and Dana LeAnn Prince, both of Tulsa; one brother, James Leo Lawrence of Eufaula; three sisters, Bernice Dawson of Eufaula, Vernel Lawson of Eufaula, and Naomi Morrow of Tulsa; and nine grandchildren.

Pallbearers include: Kermit Buck; Dallas Hayes; Byrl Brackett; Robert Smith; Don Martin; and Ray Patterson.

Honorary pallbearers were the members of Vivian Baptist Church.

Interment was at Lenna Cemetery.

DREAFUS PERRYMAN

BEAVERTON, Ore. — A memorial mass for Dreafus Tonsiwee Perryman was held on Feb. 6 at St. Cecilia Church with Friar Scott Vandehey officiating.

Perryman was born Feb. 1, 1926 in Coweta to John W. Perryman and Georgia M. Taylor.

He left Oklahoma for the military service as a pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving in Panama at the end of World War II. Following his service in the military, he traveled worked in the shipyards in northern California. He later moved to southern California and worked for 33 years at McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft Co. in Torrance, Calif. He retired in 1981 and moved to Beaverton, Ore. in 1991. He was an active member of St. Cecilia Church and also en-

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Obituaries

continued from page 6

joyed diving for abalone, flying small aircraft, fishing, gardening, rebuilding car engines and watching sports events.

Preceding him in death were: his first wife, Esther Hernandez; his mother; and second wife, Joyce Gamwell.

Survivors include: daughters, Maria Perryman-Vasquez of San Bernardino, Calif., Rene of Vallejo, Calif., and Michele of Beaverton, Ore.; sons, Dario of Puyallup, Wash., Armon of Portland, Ore., and Giovanni of Vancouver, Wash.; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and many other relatives.

Interment was at Pioneer Cemetery in San Bernardino, Calif.

DELMON RUMSEY

STIDHAM — Funeral services for Delmon Ray Rumsey were held Feb. 7 at Stidham Baptist Church with Rev. Gary Hawkins officiating.

He died Feb. 2 at Baptist Hospital in Oklahoma City. Rumsey was born Sept. 3, 1930 to Edmon and Rachel Sinor Rumsey in Stidham.

He married Patsy Downum August 1, 1952. He served in the military during the Korean War and was discharged in 1955. After serving in the military, he relocated to Denison, Texas where he worked at Perrin Air Force Base until 1971. He then moved his family to Moore and worked at Tinker Air Force Base until his retirement in 1984. He enjoyed spending time with family, working on cars, and following sports.

Preceding him in death were: his parents and three brothers, Orien, Willie "Bill," and Edward Rumsey.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; daughter, Jeanne Graves of Moore; sons, Delmon Jr. of Oklahoma City, Michael and Lance, both of Moore, and Monty of Oklahoma City; two sisters, Odell Rippy of Stidham and Genetta Walkup of Paso Robles, Calif.; nine grandchildren; one great-grandson; and many other relatives.

Interment was at the Rumsey Family Cemetery in Stidham.

ELMO MORGAN

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Elmo Morgan were held March 4, 2002 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Wake services were held March 3 at the chapel.

He died Feb. 28 in Tulsa. He was born March 30, 1930 in Morris to Ed and Martha Daniel Morgan.

Morgan married Rosetta Haynes Morgan on Oct. 16, 1953 in Henryetta. He was a member of Big Cussetah Methodist Church. He enjoyed being around his grandchildren, sitting outside, and working on cars.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; son, Glen Morgan; and three brothers, Raymond, Frank, and Sam Morgan.

Survivors include: five daughters, Ruth Grimes of Salina, Trisha Major of Mesquite, Texas., Diane and Mary Morgan, both of Okmulgee, and Betty Kirkland of Council Hill; four sons, David and Elmo Morgan Jr., both of Okmulgee, James Morgan of Hitchita, Bud Morgan of Okmulgee; 16 grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

Casketbearers include: David Major; Kevin Kirkland; Jesse Long; Ricky Haynes; Robert Bynam; and Joe Harris.

Interment was at the Morgan Family Cemetery in the Salem Community.

LILLIE THOMAS

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Lillie Mae Thomas were held Jan. 26, 2002 at Robert Simons Funeral Home with Revs. John Buckner, Abe McIntosh, and Willie Pigeon officiating.

Thomas

Wake services were held Jan. 25 at the chapel.

She died Jan. 23 in Tulsa. She was born Jan. 14, 1926 to Ben Johnson [Bennie Henehochee] and Maudie Emarthlochee Johnson.

Thomas was a member of the Alligator Clan and Okfuskee Tribal Town. She was a homemaker who enjoyed caring for her grandchildren. She had been a resident of the Preston community for 29 years. In her active years, she enjoyed playing bingo and traveling.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; sister, Seejaryee Bear; brother, Johnnie Bluford Johnson; and husband, Jinkie Thomas.

Survivors include: daughter, Lillian Thomas of Okmulgee; sister, Kalanchee Yahola of Haydenville; granddaughters, Natalie Kennedy of Collinsville, Lila Garrett of Preston, and Roberta Thomas of Okmulgee; great-grandson, Jesse Bear of Preston; and niece, Marilyn Lucinda Dunson of Houston, Texas.

Casketbearers include: Steve Yahola; Leonard Yahola; Samuel Yahola; Tim Goodvoice; Kenny Goodvoice; and Adam George Thomas.

Interment was at the Bear Family Cemetery near Mason.

NAKOMIS VELA

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Nakomis "Niki" Fixico Vela were held Dec. 20, 2001 at Greenleaf Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. George Doyle officiating.

Vela

She died Dec. 17 in Tulsa. She was born Jan. 19, 1928 in Castle to Roman and Louinie Simmons Fixico.

She was retired from Miami Baptist Hospital where she began her work as a registered nurse and later worked in the hospital's materials health services department. A resident of Okemah since her retirement in the early 1990s, Vela attended Greenleaf Missionary Baptist Church. She served in any ministry she was asked, whether it be music or in the kitchen. Cooking was one of her favorite pastimes. She enjoyed cooking pecan pies and her favorite food, grape dumplings. She liked to pick wild onions and care for her plants. Vela enjoyed attending the many activities her children were involved in. She also liked to sew in her spare time.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; sister, Betsy Tiger; and brother, Hiawatha "Boots" Fixico.

Survivors include: two daughters, Kathy Sue Hamilton of Okmulgee and Lisa Bryan of Lenexa, Kan.; son, Scott Anthony Vela of Shelbyville, Texas; stepdaughter, Madeline Yahola Seago of Carrolton, Texas; three grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; brother, Charles "Socks" Fixico of Hartshorne; three sisters, Etta Mae Moses of Warner, Rachel Paddelty of Oklahoma City, and Rebecca Kingsbery of Tishomingo; and many other relatives and friends.

Casket bearers include: Charles "Spooky" Fixico; Chris Fixico; Doran Fixico; Eddy Fixico; Randy Fixico; Stan Fixico; Terry Fixico; Jason Harjo; Jay Yearby; Jeffery Yearby; Justin Yearby; and Scott Vela.

Honorary casketbearers include: Phillip Coon; Ronald Moses; Bill "Long John" Wofford; and Kelly Wayne Sadongei.

Interment was at Castle Cemetery.

STELLA WHITE

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Stella Partridge Alexander White were held Jan. 11 at Green Hill Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Dave Wilde officiating.

She died Jan. 4. She was born Jan. 18, 1909 to Sam and Hanna Partridge in Wagner County.

Stella was employed with Liberty Glass for many years and retired from employment there.

White was preceded in death by: her parents; former husbands, Willie Tecumseh Alexander Jr. and Waverly White; grandson, Audie Dobbs; and two sisters.

She is survived by: her children, Paul Alexander of California, Connie Dobbs of Sapulpa, Bill E. Alexander of Tulsa, George Alexander, Andrea White, and Dennis White, all of Las Vegas, Nev.; two sisters, Stephanie Darby of Tulsa and Sammie Jones of Texas; 11 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandson.

Honorary casketbearers include: Paul Wayne Alexander Jr.; Wayne Tecumseh Dobbs; Robert Alex Dobbs; Jim Weaver; Matt Shelton; Clinton White; and Cecil Tiger.

Interment was at the Garden of Prayer, Green Hill Memorial Gardens in Sapulpa.

Gratitude

We would like to say thank you for all the prayers, flowers, cards, songs, food, and all the help extended to our family during the loss of our two family members — Billy Jr. and James Washington.

Words cannot express how much we appreciate everything that was done during this difficult period. Along with our faith in the Lord and the outpouring of love and support from our family and friends, as well as our many church families, we could not have made it through such a painful period of our lives. Again, thank you and may the Lord bless and enrich your lives for your generosity.

Billy Jr. and James Washington Family

Religion

Wewoka United Methodist holding revival

WEWOKA — Wewoka Indian United Methodist Church is holding a revival from April 1 to 3 beginning at seven nightly.

The preachers are: April 1 — Rev. Margaret Battiest of Lawton; April 2 — Rev. Lois Neal of Shawnee; and April 3 — Rev. Bernadine Dowdy of Glenpool. From the intersection of U.S. Highway 270 and state highway 48, near Holdenville, drive three miles east on state highway 48 and seven miles north on Yeager Road.

Birthday singing being held for Springfield leader

OKEMAH — A gospel singing honoring Jesse Scott's 60th birthday will begin at 7 p.m., April 27 at Heaven Highway Gospel Church, 212 N. 6th St.

The master of ceremonies will be David Little. Special guests will be "The Tribesman." Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Study findings show diet and exercise delay diabetes

Monica Boone, a soft-spoken silversmith and mother of two from Zuni, N. M., was haunted by a fear of diabetes.

It had killed her father, who died of a diabetes-induced heart attack at age 57, and one of his brothers. Another uncle on her father's side now struggled with the disease. She figured she was next in line. At five foot three inches tall, she weighed 173 pounds, had little energy, and didn't get much physical activity. So three years ago she looked into a research study getting under way in Zuni. She entered the study when her tests came back showing she had impaired glucose tolerance (IGT), a condition one step away from diabetes.

In IGT, which affects about 20 million people in the U.S., blood sugar levels are higher than normal, but not yet diabetic. Having IGT sharply raises the chances of developing type two diabetes and heart disease. Once a person develops type two diabetes, the risk of heart disease is even higher — two to four times that of people without diabetes.

"I was scared for myself and my family, but I still wanted to know where I stood," she recalls. "When I found out about the study, I felt I was being given a second chance. I decided to take that chance. I wanted to help them find out if this disease can be prevented."

Boone, like thousands of other adults across the country at high risk for type two diabetes, had joined a research study called the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP). Everyone in the study had IGT and were overweight. Volunteers were randomly assigned to one of the following groups:

• life-style changes: aim to lower body weight by seven percent by lowering intake of fat and calories and exercising 150 minutes a week at moderate intensity (Most chose walking an average of 30 minutes a day five days a week.);

• metformin: take 850 milligrams of the oral diabetes drug metformin (Glucophage) twice a day. This group also received information on diet and physical activity;

• placebo: take placebo pills in place of metformin. This group also received information on diet and physical activity.

As a study volunteer, Boone was randomly assigned to life-style changes. She needed to lose seven percent of her weight — about 12 pounds — by curbing fat and calories in her diet and exercising 150 minutes a week. Boone decided to walk. Her first time out was tough. "My heart was beating so fast," she recalls. Slowly, she built up her endurance from one mile to two, then three, then four miles at least five days a week. She gradually mixed in jogging with walking. She ate fewer fast foods and began cooking nutritious meals at home. The weight started to drop off. In time she lost 20 pounds. Best of all, her blood sugar level went back to normal.

Boone was one of the 3,234 DPP participants who helped prove that diet and moderate physical activity can sharply delay and possibly prevent type two diabetes. Specifically, diet and physical activity resulting in a five to seven percent weight loss lowered the incidence (development of new cases) of diabetes by 58 percent. The same study found that the drug metformin cut the incidence of type two diabetes by 31 percent.

And the good news didn't end there. While both interventions lowered fasting blood sugar levels, diet and physical activity were more effective at lowering blood sugar levels two hours after a sugar drink. Also, about twice as many people in the life-style group, compared to those who got standard advice, regained normal sugar levels, showing that diet and physical activity can reverse IGT.

Researchers announced results of the trial last August after ending the study a year early. Their findings are reported in the Feb. 7 issue of the "New England Journal of Medicine."

Nearly half of the DPP participants were from minority groups that suffer disproportionately from type two diabetes: American Indians; African Americans; Hispanic Americans; Asian Americans; and Pacific Islanders. Diabetes has hit American Indians harder than any other ethnic group in the United States, taking an enormous toll in pain, disability, and loss of life. On average, American Indians and Alaska Natives are 2.6 times more likely to have diabetes than non-Hispanic whites of similar age.

"Life-style intervention worked equally well in men and women and in all ethnic groups. It was most effective in people age 60 and older, who lowered the risk of developing diabetes by 71 percent. Metformin was also effective in both sexes and in all the ethnic groups. However, it was relatively ineffective in older volunteers and in those who were less overweight," said study chair Dr. David Nathan of Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.

Dr. William Knowler, a researcher with the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), the part of the National Institutes of Health that sponsored the trial, oversaw the study at five urban and reservation communities in the southwest. "Study participants from American Indian communities helped prove that type two diabetes can be delayed in many people at high risk of diabetes and add immeasurably to their overall health and quality of life," said Knowler, who has for years worked to find the causes of type two diabetes in the Pima Indians near Phoenix, Ariz.

"What floored us was how quickly diet and exercise made a big impact in reversing the slide into diabetes," said Mary Hoskin, the coordinator of the clinical trial in Arizona. "In just three years, diet and exercise resulting in a modest weight loss of...10 or 15 pounds made such a big difference in health."

"The research was done in our communities, and it's already making a big difference here. We contributed to this study, and we are benefiting from it," added Shandiin Begay, a member of the Navajo Nation who works closely with participants in three Indian communities in Arizona. "The life-style changes the participants made helped not only themselves, but their families and communities. This study shows that we can change the future of diabetes in Indian country."

Other research has shown that diet and physical activity delay type two diabetes in at-risk people, but the DPP, conducted at 27 centers nationwide, is the first major study to show that life-style changes can delay diabetes in a diverse population of overweight American adults with IGT. It is also the first major study to look at whether a drug could help lower diabetes risk.

"We're in an all-out war against diabetes," said Merna Lewis, vice president of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian community, who called the findings "tremendous." "Of course, we were hoping for something miraculous to come along, but it all boils down to people in how to prevent this disease. We're taking the message of exercising and eating healthy foods into schools and childcare centers because even our young people are getting diabetes. We've started bi-weekly classes in cooking nutritious meals, and we're encouraging physical activity in everyone, clear up to seniors."

Lewis, a dynamic leader who struggles with diabetes herself, strongly supported the study from the beginning. "Do everything you can to avoid getting diabetes," she counsels young people. "Don't say I'm going to get it anyway. If it comes, it comes, and if you already have diabetes, don't give up. People feel angry and discouraged. They say 'how come me?' The problem is, diabetes can hit anybody, even young children who will have to deal with it a long time," she says.

Can life-style changes or metformin treatment prevent diabetes completely? "We just don't know how long, beyond the three year period studied, diabetes can be delayed," says Nathan. "We hope to follow the DPP volunteers to learn how long the interventions are effective." The researchers will analyze the data to determine whether the interventions reduced heart disease and atherosclerosis, major causes of death in people with type two diabetes.

About 16 million people in the U.S. have diabetes. It is the main cause of kidney failure, limb amputations, and new cases of blindness in adults and a major cause of heart disease and stroke. Type two diabetes accounts for up to 95 percent of all diabetes cases. Most common in adults over age 40, type two diabetes affects eight percent of the U.S. population age 20 and older. It is strongly linked to obesity (more than 80 percent of people with type two diabetes are overweight), inactivity, family history of diabetes, and racial or ethnic background. The prevalence of type two diabetes has tripled in the last 30 years, due in large part to the upsurge in obesity.

Behind Monica Boone's house are the trails she runs and has come to love, paths that wind through a valley surrounded by the stark beauty of Corn Mountain and the Bluebird Mesas. She's gone through 10 pairs of running shoes. "I look forward to my runs now," she says. "I see small animals like rabbits and rodents and beautiful birds, even a golden eagle sometimes. I have more energy, I'm quicker in my movements, and I enjoy going here and there. I used to dread it. People say 'Is that you?' They don't recognize me," she laughs.

"If you love yourself, it's worth the time it takes," says Boone. "Taking one hour out of 24 for yourself is not a very big sacrifice."

Notices

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Nation rolls — a decision forced upon them by federal government policy of the time. The Euchee people have always considered themselves to be a separate tribe and have always conducted their ceremonies separate from those of the Maskoke — at their own Euchee ceremonial grounds.

Today, many Euchee people are enrolled with the Muscogee Nation and some individuals of Euchee descent are concerned that if they complete an application form with the Euchee Tribe that it will affect their benefit status with Muscogee Nation. This cannot happen as the Euchee Tribe is not a federally recognized tribe, according to the news release. This enrollment will not affect individuals current tribal status or benefits that they are receiving. If, in the future, this enrollment is used to document a petition for federal or state recognition, tribally-enrolled individuals of Euchee descent will may choose to be enrolled with the Euchee or remain with the tribe in which they are currently a member.

To request a group meeting, schedule an office or home visit, or for more information, community members with Euchee ancestry may call: the Euchee (Yuchi) Tribe of Indians' office at (918) 224-3065 or (918) 224-7469.

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Committee hearing complaints regarding housing authority

OKMULGEE — Members of the Muscogee National Council's Fact Finding Committee will be hearing complaints from pre-selected Creek Nation Housing Authority participants in a meeting beginning at 7 p.m., April 25.

Individuals who will testify at the April 25th meeting have been selected by previously submitting written complaints solicited from the Fact Finding Committee.

The impetus for the meeting is the large number of informal complaints, made to National Council representatives, regarding housing programs and services.

"What brought it about was the committee members felt it was a priority in the fact finding mission. We'd like to clear the air up as to what's really [occurring] out there," said Fact Finding Committee Chair George Almerigi, an Okmulgee District representative.

Legislation to move the Creek Nation Housing Authority — a state authority — under the administration of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was introduced at the

please see **HOUSING**..., page 3

photo by Gerald Wofford

Miss Mvskoke Nation Dawn Thompson, second from right, congratulates Eufaula Ekv Cvto team member Mitch Tiger on winning the high school division of the Muscogee Nation Johnson O'Malley Program Challenge Bowl held April 3 and 10 in the Independent Agencies (mound) Auditorium. Also pictured are Senior Miss Mvskoke Nation Pearl Thomas and National Council Speaker Wilbur "Cepvn" Gouge.

Muscogee People

Young man earns impressive college baseball career through determination to succeed

by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee citizen Ocfuske James "O.J." King is the star pitcher on the Northwestern State University Demons' baseball team.

King, who is also Cherokee, attended Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah. He was an outstanding pitcher on the high school team as well as a talented tennis and basketball player. He sought to pursue his athletic talent on the college level, specifically in baseball. After receiving little attention from baseball scouts or universities during his senior year, he planned to walk-on at one of the local colleges. During the summer following his graduation, King was chosen to pitch in a Green Country All-Star game being played near Warner.

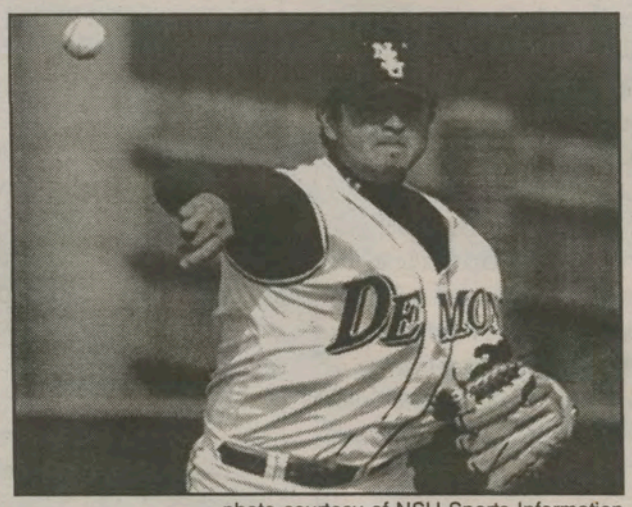


photo courtesy of NSU Sports Information

Coaches from the Connors State College's baseball team were in attendance that evening and were impressed with his performance. The coaches offered the six foot three, 215 pound King a full scholarship immediately after the game. His tenure at Connors was impressive. Word of his talent spread to universities

see **KING**..., page 3

Dewar citizen pleads guilty to bomb threat charge; Okmulgee citizen being held in custody

MUSKOGEE — Dewar tribal citizen Stoney Joe McIntosh entered a plea of guilty to federal grand jury charges of making a bomb threat during a change of plea hearing held March 27 .

In January, McIntosh made a telephone bomb threat to the tribe's Okmulgee Child Development Center where he was employed.

A sentencing hearing for McIntosh has not been set.

A jury trial date has been set in a separate criminal case involving Okmulgee tribal citizen Steven Douglas Barnett. Barnett plead not guilty to a federal grand jury charge of embezzlement, in excess of $40,000, from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission.

Barnett's jury trial will be held at 9 a.m., May 6 in U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Oklahoma.

Barnett has been held in custody since a March 27 bond revocation hearing for violating the conditions of his release.

Haskell student organization promotes retention, pride, and family-like atmosphere for students

by Mark J. Randolph, ACCES organization sponsor

Greetings from Haskell Indian Nations University, it is our sincere hope that these words find you happy, healthy, and surrounded by the greatest of spirits.

The Alabama, Coushatta, Creek, Euchi, and Seminole organization want to offer a heart felt *mvto* for the special allocation of $10,000. Our organization has been able to do so many great things that promote retention, pride, visibility, and togetherness. By offering activities that foster empowerment we are able to advocate for healthy life-styles, as well as the pursuit of higher education. This would have never been possible without financial assistance. We are forever thankful.

submitted photo

Representing the ACESS organization in a Haskell National American Indian Day traditional clothing contest were, left to right: Mark J. Randolph; Jason Sawyer; Martha Holatta; Julie James; and David Deere.

The following is an account of the expenditures for the fall semester 2001. We began with a welcome back cookout hosted in the adjoining Broken Arrow Park. We withdrew $75 to purchase the meat and drinks. The side dishes and trimmings for the meal were provided by community members.

Our second meal consisted of a wild onion dinner in honor of Mekko Tyner, a Muscogee tribal citizen and newly-elected president of Haskell Indian Nations University Student Senate. We had all the trimmings, invited elders of the community and Haskell's new president, Karen Swisher. Dr. Aaron Gawhega, Otoe-Iowa, brought the blessing over our meal and gathering.

We had our first fund-raiser during September with a food booth at Haskell's Indian Art Market. The club came out in full force and helped set up, man the booth, and tear down. We had a lot of competition but were able to make a modest profit of $200.

As an incentive for academic excellence and working at the Indian art market, the club purchased 20 University of Oklahoma-University of Kansas football tickets at $200.

In September, the Substance Abuse Strategies and Education Program hosted activities highlighting and promoting

please see **ACCES**..., page 3

March District Court filings

Civil Actions:
- Security Finance vs. Warren Barr
- Saber Acceptance vs. Amanda and Frank Chisholm
- GHS Property & Casualty Insurance Company vs. Christopher L. Jones

Protective Orders:
- Angel Marris vs. Bobby Marris
- Billy Sexton vs. Jesse Nance
- Billy Sexton vs. Gage Miller
- Billy Sexton vs. Dustin McKinnley
- Billy Sexton vs. Brandon Redcherries
- Ramona Nester vs. Peggy Hampton
- Jamie Frazier vs. Eugene Barnes

Divorce:
- Detra Littlehead vs. Mitchell Littlehead

Criminal-misdemeanor:
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Charles J. Reynolds Jr. — count 1: battery
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Wesley Butler —count 1: public intoxication
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Andy Butler —count 1: public intoxication

Criminal-felony:
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Joseph T. Rogers Jr. — count 1: fraud or false Pretenses
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Richard Brown —count 1: possession of illegal drugs

Traffic:
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Patrick Lane Henson —count 1: driving without a license

please see **FILINGS**..., page 3

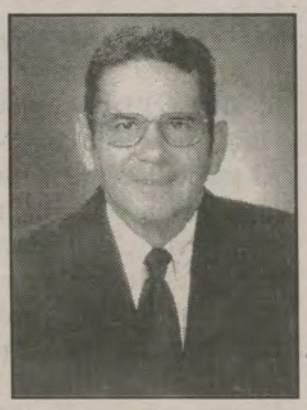
Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Spring has arrived in Muscogee Nation and what a beautiful time of year.

We only have to look outside or along the roads to see the beauty that blooms around us. Pear trees, and others such as dogwood and redbud, are blooming. We often take the new grass and flowers for granted — my friends, please stop and smell the roses. I realize the fast-paced world that we live in and the great responsibilities involved in raising families is demanding, but stop at times and be thankful for all the simple things that nature provides us.

On March 9th I attended a meeting of the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard at the Henryetta Veterans of Foreign Wars post. A large crowd of veterans were present when a Pendleton shawl was presented to **Kristi Scott**, Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Division III, for her help with veterans programs. I also received a blanket from the group for supporting them. Thanks again to all veterans of the honor guard.



March 22nd was Indian taco time at Sapulpa Indian Community. I always enjoy visiting with all Muscogee people from the Sapulpa area. It looks like they will be getting a new elderly nutrition center soon.

On March 23rd the regular Council session and also wild onion dinner day at Thlopthlocco Indian Church were held. I thank the **Pauline McKinney** family for the two tickets we received and also it's always good to see **Gene Dunson's** smiling face. After we left the onion dinner we stopped for a while at a fund-raiser at the Tribal Town Center in Okemah. We thank **Roman** and **Dora Hill** for the invitation.

I want to mention March 30th because it was the Dustin Resident Service Organization's Festival Day. I was surprised at the huge crowd even though it was raining. We met people from several states and many people locally who participated. I was invited by organization chair **Sam Proctor** and tribal community health representative **Ace Buckner**. I was surprised when the Dustin Mayor **Cleo Robinson** present me with an impressive plaque with a gold key to the City of Dustin for my work with Muscogee people. National Council Rep. **Lola Fields** was also there representing the Tukvpvtce District. Thanks Dustin!

The new Creek Nation Travel Plaza at Muskogee opened this week and business is booming. Everyone near or passing through Muskogee should stop and try the biggest and best chicken fried steak in Oklahoma. This is your travel plaza and the Muscogee people are the owners and operators. We'll do our best to manage it properly and generate as much profit as possible.

Also, the new elderly nutrition center at Bristow will be finished this week. I stopped in for their Easter dinner and had a chance to look over the new kitchen. Congratulations to all the Bristow elders who I am sure will enjoy the clean surroundings away from the gaming machines.

Quote of the month: *Two requirements of being a leader — to make your promises to the people who allow you to lead, and the necessity of carrying out your promise.*

Mvto.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Housing

continued from page 1

end of the 11th session of the National Council by the office of the principal chief. Almerigi said the degree of problems related to the administration of housing authority programs needs to be accessed thoroughly before considering such a move.

"A lot of the Council members felt we shouldn't change anything. Will [housing problems] be solved if we change things organizationally," rhetorically questioned Almerigi in regard to the legislation sponsored by Okmulgee District Rep. David Lewis.

Other Fact Finding Committee members are: Barbara Gillespie, vice chair; Judy Aaron; Ron Cleghorn; Helen Chupco; Dwayne Lowe; Thomas McIntosh; and Nancy Watson.

For more information, call Terry Dutchy, committee secretary, at (918) 756-8700, ext. 346.

King

continued from page 1

looking to improve their roster with experienced players. Louisiana's Northwestern came calling and King accepted.

Since that time, King has steadily improved each year — as have the Demons by winning the Southland Conference last season . During his first year at NSU, King won eight games while losing only one.

As he is in the process of completing his final year, his success on the mound has been impressive so far. King is undefeated in his five starts on the mound. His earned run average is listed at 1.47. Last year, while playing Southern Illinois, King threw a complete game and allowed only one hit as the Demons shutout the Salukis 4-0. In March, King struck out a career high 15 batters as the Demons achieved another shutout, 2-0, against Lamar. His 15 strikeout game set a single game school record for NSU. For his performance, King was named Southland Conference Pitcher of the Week for March 24 through 30. On commenting about his performance against Lamar, Demon Head Baseball Coach Mitch Gaspand had nothing but praise for King. "O. J. was totally dominating today, he really took us on his shoulders with his performance today."

King's success has been reflective of the team overall. The Demons were successful in holding the Nation's longest winning streak — 16 — for a while this year. The NSU team has beaten the likes of Texas A&M Corpus Christie, Lousiana State-Shreveport, and the University of Minnesota — the Big Ten Champions in 2001. For the first time in the school's history, the Demon baseball team was ranked 23 nationally by the Collegiate Baseball Writers Association poll. The poll is the oldest major college baseball ranking system.

King's parents are David King of Tulsa and Eunice Wiseley of Tahlequah. The elder King has witnessed each milestone in the process of his son's pursuit to play college baseball. "I have to give him credit. He always told me he could do it," said his father. "I'm really proud of him," said his mother, "last year we were receiving phone calls from the Dodgers and the Mariners who were interested in drafting him already."

On May 7 and 8 the NSU Baseball team will be visiting Oral Roberts University in Tulsa for a two game stand. If the pitching rotation works out, along with other factors, local fans may get a chance to see King in action — a chance to see how a Muscogee athlete has made the most of a God given talent.

ACCES

continued from page 2

National American Indian Day. The ACCES organization sponsored the evening barbecue. We fed the student body as part of the day's celebration. As you know a big part of any Native celebration is the food. Rev. Jerry Baker said the blessing over the food and many of the Creek ladies in the community brought side dishes. This activity promoted teamwork in preparation and dedication as we fed over 250 people. It was our way of sharing the blessing of financial assistance with the school as well as honoring our ancestors and ourselves. A withdrawal of $150 was made to fund this event.

During National American Indian Day festivities, a campus-wide contest was held. All clubs and organizations were charged with wearing something reflective of their tribal nation. The clubs came together to have their picture taken and judges made the final decision. We took second place winning $75. We were first runner-up to the Alaskan Club.

As another way of giving back to the school, the ACCES club donated $200 to the baseball club. They were holding fund-raisers and starting from scratch. They had heard of the great support shown to us by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and asked if we could contribute in any way. As sponsors, we were delighted at the generosity of the students and their commitment to help the baseball club get on their feet. We have five Muscogee (Creek) students and two Alabama Coushatta students who are on the baseball team. After a year's time of being a club, they will be able to recognized as a varsity team. We believe baseball will put us back on the map.

In October Haskell Indian Nations University hosted our board of regents. The most active clubs on campus were bestowed the honor of receiving a board member. The ACCES organization hosted our very own George Tiger. We prepared a table of food and refreshments in his honor. The ACCES organization numbered close to 30 students. The meeting was very informative. Our students utilized the time to ask questions and express concerns and accomplishments with Mr. Tiger. We used $100 to host this historical meeting.

Many of our students were greatly saddened by the passing of Kimberly Lowe, the daughter of Rusty and Gloria Lowe. We planned to take a van to Oklahoma to pay our respect to the deceased as well as convey our support for the family. We were unable to coordinate the trip to meet everyone's' schedules so after much discussion we decided to send flowers. The flowers cost $45. It was a means of closure and we talked to the students about passing from this world to the next.

Our October outing for those students who were in good academic and social standing was a trip to the haunted houses in Kansas City, Kan.. Kansas City has renovated old buildings into state of the art houses of horror. We also took students to eat at a restaurant. The cost was $400. The students really enjoyed themselves.

The organization also participated in the Halloween carnival here at Haskell. We set up a booth at the carnival. The activity was well attended by students and the Native American children of the community. The cost was $50 for candy.

November brought Cultural Awareness Week, celebrating pride, resiliency, and empowerment. Various groups and organizations facilitated the week celebration. The organization hosted Friday night's activities entitled "Celebrating Students." Our honored guest speakers were Theda New Breast and Amanda Old Crow. Amanda is part Muscogee and Cherokee. During the week's activities an educational booth contest was held. The organization had a very impressive display; it came in second place once again to the Alaskan Club.

Our November outing entitled "Fun Night" was a bowling trip to Crescent Lanes. The cost was $180.

December brought the holidays along with finals and the transitioning from school to home. We had one fall graduate — Mekko Singer. The club purchased a Mvskoke gorget for him at $60 . It was presented to him during graduation exercises. We also celebrated life with a Christmas dinner at Uno's. Twenty-five students attended, the cost was $375.

The organization sponsored a potluck dinner in February. The Muscogee faculty, staff, students, and the community-at-large were invited to attend. We presented our newly-elected and outgoing officers. We called each member of ACCES individually to thank them for all of their hard work and commitment to education. We wanted our students to be aware of the many Muscogee (Creek) people who work at Haskell and live in the community.

We recently had our web site posted by tribal member and student John Harjo; the cost was $150. Our expenses for lunch meetings are $470 for almost a year. We provide lunch at every other meeting. We meet weekly and boast an attendance of over 24 students a meeting.

Our fund-raising in the past year totals $1,618 — partnering with Kan-Arts, Substance Abuse Strategies and Education Program, the Indian United Methodist Church of Lawrence, the Indian art market, and the campus activities association. We are in the process of paying for jackets for active club members and will use funds from the miscellaneous line item; we will make up the difference with ongoing fund-raising events.

It has been a lot of work, but we have managed to create a family-like unit for our students. Statistics show that students are more likely to succeed if they have a mentor among faculty and staff. Our organization is recognized as one of — if not the most active organization on campus. Our retention efforts are proving to be very successful. We are currently have seven Muscogee graduates for the spring semester.

None of this could have been done without the support of the great Muscogee Nation. The encouragement, as well as the financial and spiritual support, the Nation has provided is beyond measure. We are so thankful to our Creator and to our leaders who do support education. We hope to become a chartered member so we can receive this support annually.

Again, we say *mvto* and God our Creator be with each and every one of you. This has truly been a historical moment in the lives of the Muscogee faculty, staff, and, most importantly, the students of Haskell Indian Nations University.

Filings

continued from page 2

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Patrick Lane Henson — count 1: hit and run

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., May 1 and 15;
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., May 2 and 16;
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., May 2 and 16;
- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., May 7 and 21; and
- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., May 7.

Employment program accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Summer Youth Employment Program is accepting applications at 1 p.m. on Wednesdays through April 24 in the Muscogee Nation Human Development Building located on the tribal capitol comlex.

The Summer Youth Employment Program is designed to provide Native Americans between the ages of 16 and 21 with work experience and the opportunity to develop life skills. Applicants attend an application seminar and those determined eligible are provided with a summer job in their local communities. All participants work 40 hours per week. The eight-week program helps young people gain experience, training, responsibility, and money.

To be eligible applicants must bring: a certificate degree of Indian blood card; Social Security card; proof of income for the last six months; verification of residence; proof of selective service registration of applicable; copy of high school transcript, diploma, or GED; college students must bring a copy of transcript and all financial aid documents; and a copy of insurance card or Indian Health Service card verifying chart number and name of physician. Applicants must turn age 16 by June 3, 2002 and not turn age 22 before Aug. 2, 2002.

. For more information, call 1 (800) 482-1979 or (918) 756-8700 at extension 623 or 625.

Tribal community health representatives staff elected to state positions

OKLAHOMA CITY — Two employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representatives Program were elected to leadership positions in the Oklahoma Area Association of Community Health Representatives in January.

The OAACHR meets monthly in order to assimilate information regarding CHR programs in the Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas and Nebraska areas on a national and statewide level. "Currently we are beginning to make plans for our CHR conference which will be held in Oklahoma City on September 16th through 20th. From now on we will be very busy recruiting presenters, speakers, and organizing our conference activities. The Creek Nation has been fortunate to have their representatives at these meeting because it has given us the opportunity to work closely with the National Kidney Foundation and the National Lupus Association which has allowed the CHR program to host the K.E.E.P. (Kidney Early Evaluation Program) and make it available to our citizens."

submitted photo

Pictured, left to right, are officers: Betty Wauahdooah, treasurer, Wichita; Cyndi Gilks, secretary, Creek; Pam Aguilar, vice president, Chickasaw; Woody Hansen, president, Cherokee; Clara Ballard, historian, Creek, and David Murray, parliamentarian, Osage.

Housing offers grant assistant to purchase homes

OKMULGEE — The Housing Authority of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma is currently accepting applications for grant assistance to purchase homes within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation jurisdictional boundaries.

Under the federal regulations of the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act of 1996 the housing authority provides a five-year forgivable grant up to $25,000.

Since November of 1999 the housing authority, through its mortgage assistance program has provided $1,094,340 in grant assistance to assist 84 families purchasing homes.

The mortgage assistance program is an income and credit based program, therefore an applicant must meet the income requirements as established through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the credit criteria of the servicing lender.

Some general program requirements are applicants must: be a first time homebuyer; must reside within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and be be 18 years of age.

The grant assistance may be used for new construction or acquisition.

For more information, Muscogee citizens may contact the mortgage assistance program at (918) 759-4126.

Families entering into agreement with U.S. Fish and Wildlife

SCHULTER — Descendants of individuals buried in a cemetery located on federal property recently met with Deep Fork National Wildlife Refuge Manager Darrin Unruh to discuss terms of a memorandum of agreement in the two parties will enter into.

Timmy Thompson, Muscogee Nation Cultural Preservation Office, said cemetery status is somewhat unique as it is one of only two Indian cemeteries located on federal land located within tribal jurisdictional boundaries. Thompson is assisting descendants of the Burgess and Pakoska families by drafting the agreement.

A cemetery cleanup day has been scheduled for Cussetah Cemetery, located northeast of the Schulter area, on April 20. Descendants of the Bruner, Burgess, Pakoska, and Polk families are encouraged to come.

For more information, call Butch Burgess at (918) 652-8007.

photo by Stephanie Barnett

Pictured, left to right, are descendants of Burgess and Pakoska families: Bertha Taylor of Schulter; Rita and Mehenwa Williams of Wilson Community; Geneva Harris of Henryetta; and Butch Burgess of Wilson Community.

Sequoyah High School plans annual reunion

TAHLEQUAH — Sequoyah High School is planning a silent auction, social gathering, and first gospel singing as part of annual reunion to be held May 3 through 5.

A benefit silent auction will begin at 5 p.m., May 3 at the Tahlequah Motor Lodge. There will also be a social gathering at this time.

The annual golf tournament will begin at 8 a.m., May 4 at the Crosswinds Golf Course, located on campus. The entry fee is $20. For more information, contact J.C. Wilson , coordinator, at (918) 456-1838. Preregistration will be held in the Sequoyah High School Gymnasium lobby from 9 a.m. to noon. It will be followed by the annual business meeting to be held from 1 to 3 p.m. in the gymnasium music room. The banquet will be held in the school cafeteria. Doors open at 4:30 p.m.; the banquet will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. The cost of the banquet is $10 per person. A dance will follow the banquet and be held from 8 p.m. to 1:30 am.. The band "Duck Brothers," featuring alumnus Mitchell Ketcher, will perform at the Cherokee Nation Ballroom. Tickets are $10 each.

The reunions first gospel singing will begin at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call Becky Sapulpa, coordinator, at (580) 298-8488.

On May 5 a morning breakfast will be available at the Sequoyah Cafeteria from 8:30 to 10 a.m. The cost is $3 per plate. Sunday services will also be held from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Sequoyah Chapel.

The silent auction, banquet, and dance are annual fundraisers; proceeds go to the SAF scholarship fund and operations expenses. Donations of traditional textiles and arts are being sought for the auction. It is requested that all donations be submitted by the morning of May 3.

For more information contact: Wanda Jones, secretary, at (918) 458-9118 or wkjones_Cherokee@hotmail.com or officers@sequoyahalumni.org. Log on to www.sequoyahalumni.org to obtain preregistration form.

California Creeks schedule association meeting

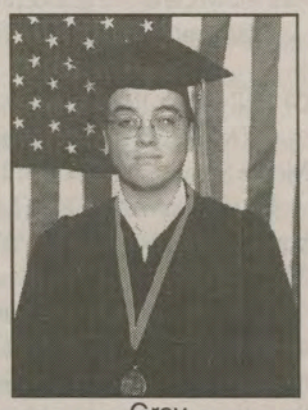
COMMERCE, CALF. — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association will meet from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., May 4 at the Southern California Indian center, 6055 E. Washington Blvd.

A select group of Muscogee elders will be recognized

please see **NOTICES**..., page 7

Citizen receives bachelors of science degree

STILLWATER — Tribal citizen Gordon Gray received his bachelors of science degree in electrical engineering with computer option in December at the convocation ceremony held at Oklahoma State University.


Gray

He is currently pursuing his master's at OSU.

Gray is the son of Charles and Annelore Gray of Newkirk and grandparents are the late Charlie and Zelda Gray of Chilocco.

Sapulpa boys part of undefeated team

SAPULPA — Muscogee (Creek) citizens John Eric Foster and Jules Willis helped the Sapulpa Junior high eighth grade football team completed a perfect season last fall.

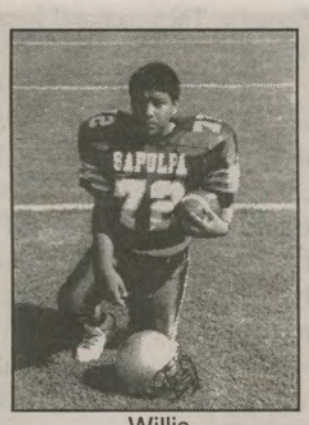
Foster

The eighth graders won eight ballgames while averaging a 20–point margin of victory over opponents in the 2001 season.

Foster played right guard and Willis played right tackle on the offensive line.

Foster is the son of David Foster of Sapulpa and Georgia McNac of Bristow.

He is the grandson of Betty Pulvar of Sapulpa and Danny Foster of Kellyville. His great-grandparents are Maggie and the late George McNac of Bristow.


Willis

Willis is the son of Lisa Watashe of Sapulpa and James Willis of Mississippi.

His grandfather is Joe Watashe of Sapulpa.

Both boys are members of Morning Star Fellowship in Sapulpa.

Girl to participate in People to People Program

BOISE, IDAHO — Tifffany Williams has been selected as an ambassador for the People to People Foundation Program.

This foundation was established in 1956 by Dwight Eisenhower to promote direct interaction between students of the U.S. and other countries.

Williams will be going to Australia in June. The participants, numbering at 150, will visit schools, have a home stay with an Australian family, and visit historical and cultural sites. While in Australia she intends to visit Ida Flynn, of Queensland, who has been a pen pal to Williams great-aunt–Jorene Coker–since 1979.

Being a student ambassador makes Williams eligible for a Congressional award scholarship and is awarded only to former student ambassadors. Williams is an above average student, academically and played clarinet in the Jenks Middle School band and in her high school band.

She is the granddaughter of the late Elaine Anderson and the great-granddaughter of Martha Gibson and Samuel Anderson.

Accomplishments

Man officiates at international championship

TULSA — Lacrosse Oklahoma, in conjuction with the Iroquois Confederacy and the International Lacrosse Federation, announces the section of local lacrosse official and Muscogee (Creek) citizen Rodney Meyer to officiate the 2002 International Lacrosse Federation World Championship in Perth, Australia.

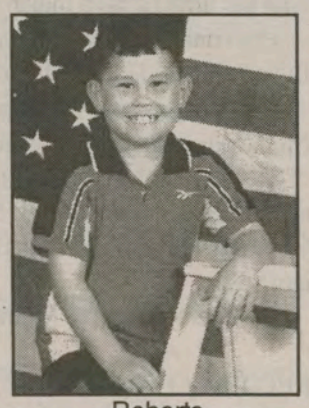
Meyers will be one of two Native American officials representing the Iroquois Confederacy in the International Lacrosse Federation World Championship Tournament. Meyers is a native of Tulsa and a founding member of the Tulsa LaCrosse Club as well as a current member of the Navy Old Goats Masters Team Based in Mounds, Meyers officiates all levels of lacrosse including youth, high school collegiate, and post collegiate club both nationally and internationally.

The International Lacrosse federation world championship returns to Australia July 6 through 14 at the University of Western Australia Sports Park. A record 17 nations will participate in the world championship, a quadrennial event that features the men's lacrosse players from throughout the world.

For more information on the world games of 2002, contact, Mavis Owens, executive officer, 2002 World Lacrosse Championships, P.O. Box 192, Wembley, Western Australia 6913; or log on to the official web site at http://www.lacrosse2002.com.

Zachery Roberts wins division in contest

TULSA — Zachery "Porky" Roberts won his division in the Bassmasters Castingkids contest held at the Tulsa Boat, Sport and Travel Show on Feb. 2.


Roberts

Roberts competed and won in the seven to 10 year old division where he scored the highest in performing the fishing techniques of flipping, pitching and casting. This qualified Roberts to compete in the state finals, held as the Tackle Show in Oklahoma City on Feb. 17, where he placed in the top ten, earning a fourth place finish in the state finals competition.

He is the son of Danny and Janell Roberts of Morris.

Citizen's work displayed at Indian art market

TULSA — Leaf Running–Rabbit, a former Tulsan and graduate of Memorial High School, displayed his artwork at the Tulsa Indian Art Market, Greenwood Cultural Center.

Running-Rabbit's art includes: fine jewelry, talking sticks; medicine bags; beadwork and totem poles. He also focuses on artistry combining pieces of nature and recycled objects, "My artwork honors nature," Running-Rabbit says. "Because everything we do is connected to nature and to the earth, my art tries to make beautiful examples of that whenever possible." He designs and ships custom pieces for individuals and companies, nationally and internationally. Leaf Running-Rabbit, Muscogee and Shawnee, is the grandson of Indian artist Inez Running-Rabbit who has been painting for over 60 years.

To see his artwork log onto his web site at www.runningrabbitfinearts.com.

Youth practicum accepting applications

EVERGREEN, Colo. — The Native American Fish and Wildlife society is sponsoring its 12th annual National Native American Environmental Awareness Summer youth practicum July 20 through 30.

The practicum is designed to provide Native American students with an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the management of natural resources.

One of the goals of the society is to encourage Native American youth to see the importance of professional natural resource management to continue their education in order to seek degrees in natural resource management, and ultimately, to pursue careers in the natural resource fields. The society believes in a re-awakening of the traditional values of Indian-to-environment relationships that are needed for tribes to make effective and sound natural resource management decisions.

The program provides an academic experience in a mountain youth camp environment. During the program, students will spend their time at the Mt. Evans outdoor Education Lab school, of the Jefferson County school district, participating in; classroom sessions; field education; recreational activities; field trips; practicing traditional methods; interacting with progessionals who are active in the field; receiving teachings from tribal elders.

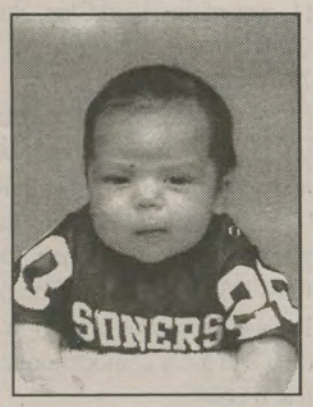
The practicum is open to incoming 10th through 12th grades, native students who are interested in the preservation, protection, and enhancement of natural resources. Students must be in good physical condition as physical activities are a part of the practicum.

For more information, write or call: Sally Careufel-Williams, Youth Practicum Coordinator, Native American Fish & Wildlife Society, 750 Burbank St., Broomfield, CO 80020; (303) 46-1725; fax, (303) 466-5414; or log on to its web site at www.nafws.org/syp.shtml.

Applications must be postmarked by May 10.

Birth

Lance Geebon Nicholas Gouge



OKMULGEE — Lance Geebon Nicholas Gouge was born Jan. 3 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Geebon and Jenna Gouge of Okmulgee.

The baby weighed 9 pounds, 4 ounces and was 22 inches in length.

His maternal grandparents are Karen Mackey Robertson of Beggs and Johnny and Mary Boyce of Tulsa.

Paternal grandparents are Thompson and the late Lutie Sue Gouge of Mountain View.

Gouge is the paternal great-grandson of Sylvia and Carl Lee of Beggs.

He has two sisters, Hanna, age five — who gave him the name Nicholas — and Maddie Sue, age three.

please see **SOCIETY**..., page 7

SAM BROOKS

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Sam Brooks were held March 8th at Hudson-Phillips Chapel with Rev. Eugene Harjo and Rev. Joe Lowe Jr. officiating.

Sam was born April 15, 1918 in Wetumka to Anne Bird and Joe Brooks. He was raised in Wetumka and attended school at Greasy Creek. On July 3, 1957, he married Elizabeth Lowe in Holdenville and the couple lived in Oklahoma City for many years.

Brooks was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in the 45th Division during World War II where he earned a Purple Heart. He worked in the construction industry for many years and enjoyed leather crafts, fishing, and watching sports.

Preceding him in death were his parents, one brother, and one sister.

Survivors include: his wife, Elizabeth Brooks; one sister, Evelyn McGirt of Holdenville; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were Frank Lowe, James Lowe, Jerry Lowe, Mitchell Musgrove, Harry Walker, and Roley Johnson.

Honorary bearers are Ben Larney, Angel Lowe, Dana Musgrove, and Dan Narcomey.

Interment was at the Holdenville Cemetery.

NATHAN DUKES

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Nathan Scott Dukes were held February 24 at Gregg Funeral Home Chapel with Gary and Mary Gregg officiating.

Survivors include: his parents, Tammy Marie Nixon and Todd Allen Dukes; grandparents, Eve and Mike Smith, Freddy and Mary Nixon, Beverly Stasel and David Dukes; cousin, Matthew Vaughn; and aunts and uncles, Shelly and Allen Vaughn, Kenneth Nixon, Nicole Smith and Ashley Nixon.

Interment was at Greenwood Cemetery.

JOHNSON HARJO

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Johnson Jensen Harjo were held April 6, 2002 at Schumacher Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. John Lowe officiating.

Johnson was born west of Okemah on January 18, 1907, to Tulsey Harjo and Mollie Yahola Harjo, and lived in Okemah most of his life. He served with the United States Army during World War II. Harjo was a rancher and farmer. He recently attended the Prairie Springs No. 2 Church, and was an ordained Deacon in the Greenleaf Baptist Church. He was of the Wind Clan, Nuyaka Tribal Town and Color Guard for Creek Nation, and was a former member of the American Legion.

He was preceded in death by: one son, Geronimo Harjo; one daughter, Alice Roberts; two brothers, Abner and Josiah; and two sisters, Lizzie Harjo Robinson and Melissa Tiger.

Harjo is survived by: six daughters, Geneva Harjo, Augustine Harjo of Okemah, Delores Bonitz of Okmulgee, Betty Whitebird, Esther Collins both of Oklahoma City, and Bonnie Thompson of San Francisco, California; grandchildren and great grandchildren; and numerous other family and friends.

Interment was at the Harjo Family Cemetery.

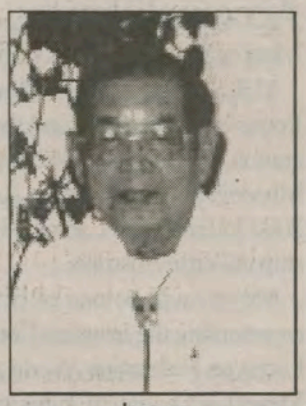
WILLIE JAMES

ARKANSAS CITY, KS — Funeral services for Willie "Bummie" James were held February 20, 2002 at Rindt-Erdman Funeral Home with Rev. Willie McCaslin of Mounds officiating.

He was born February 6, 1919, in Depew to John Henry James (Zondeoteetay) and Lucy Tiger James. Willie married Imogene Scuggins on August 24, 1944, at Gallup, N.M.. The couple made their home in Miami, Oklahoma, before moving to Arkansas City in 1960.

James attended Euchee Indian Mission School (1926-1936) and graduated from Ft. Wingate (N.M.) High School in 1939, where he participated in football and track. Willie joined the U.S. Army in 1940, and was assigned to the 8th Air Force Bomb Squad, until 1944. During his time in the service, he was a B-17 ball turret gunner and flew twenty-five bombing missions over Germany.

He was a bowler and won several Indian bowling championships in Oklahoma and also won a championship in Los Angeles, California. James worked as a bus driver for the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Chilocco, before retiring in 1987. Willie was a member of the Tiger clan and the Kellyville Euchee Ceremonial Ground.



James

Preceding him in death were: his parents; his wife; son, Jimmie; brother, Jesse; sisters, Stella Fannin and Juanita Brown; and half brothers, John Dee and Page.

Survivors include: son, Gary of Arkansas City; daughter, Virginia Moller of Tuba City, AZ; half sisters, Mary Smith and Birdie McCaslin of Mounds; granddaughters, Mardee DeSantis of Columbus, OH, Kelli Yost and Jodi James of Arkansas City; and one great-grandson.

LOUIS MCINTOSH

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Louis "Yahola" Henry McIntosh were held April 4 at First Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Raymond Beaver officiating.

He was born April 15, 1932 to George W. McIntosh and Ethel Scott McIntosh in Eufaula. McIntosh entered the U.S. Army February 1953 and was honorably discharged February 1955. Louis remained in the U.S. Army Reserve until March 1961. He was a retired welder and was affiliated with the West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church.

Preceding him in death were his parents and brothers, Luke Scott, Red Eagle McIntosh, and Alfred Frank.

Survivors include one brother, Cornelius and Gerilyn McIntosh of Oklahoma City and two sisters, Ethel Pittman of Stidham and JoAnn Voice of Stringtown.

Pallbearers were George McIntosh, Ricky McIntosh, Cornelius McIntosh Jr., Louis Postoak, Gary Jim, and William Spain.

Interment was at the McIntosh Family Cemetery.

RED EAGLE MCINTOSH

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Red Eagle McIntosh were held April 4 at First Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Buddy Powell officiating.

He was born November 24, 1932 in Eufaula to George W. McIntosh and Ethel Scott McIntosh. McIntosh entered the U.S. Army October 1947 and was honorably discharged June 1952. His tour of duty included serving in the Korean War. Red Eagle was a member of the Elm Grove Assembly of God Church and was a member of the Eufaula VFW Post 8798. He was a truck driver and was employed by J.M.'s Restaurant before his retirement. He married Gracie Rice November 1955 at McAlester.

Preceding him in death were his parents, brothers, Luke Scott, Louis Henry McIntosh, and Alfred Frank.

Survivors include: his wife, Gracie, of Sacramento, California; two daughters, Kim and Marlow Hayes of Fresno, Leslie and Jerry Daniels of Sacramento; one brother, Cornelius and Gerilynn McIntosh of Oklahoma City; two sisters, Ethel Pittman of Stidham and JoAnn Voice of Stringtown; and two grandchildren.

Interment was at the McIntosh Family Cemetery.

GLENN MOORE

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Glenn March Moore Sr. were held March 16 at First Baptist Church.

He was born at the Half Moon Ranch in Morris, Oklahoma on March 16, 1924 to William N. and Leona Matlock Moore.

When Glenn was five years old his father passed away at the beginning of the Great Depression. Glenn was sent to Euchee Indian Boarding School in Sapulpa, Oklahoma the following year when he was six years of age. He made many lifelong friends while living at Euchee and learned life at boarding school from three of his older brothers who were also students there.

He left Euchee after four years and returned to Morris and began the 5th grade at Morris Grade School. He was active in Music and Sports at Morris High School and graduated Salutatorian of his class in 1942. Glenn decided to try out for the Football team at the University of Oklahoma after high school but was not offered a scholarship. He decided to transfer to Oklahoma A&M College at Stillwater in 1943. He tried out and made the team as right end on offense and defense. This proved to be a sound decision, for the 1944-45 Aggies Football team defeated the University of Oklahoma and went on to win the Cotton Bowl.

The 1945-46 Aggie Football Team repeated their achievements of the previous years and trounced OU 47 to 0 on their way to the Sugar Bowl, which they won.

Also attending Oklahoma A&M in 1944 was a Cherokee coed from Tulsa Central High School named Jane Sumpter. They met and were married on September 26, 1946.

After Graduation the newly weds moved to Tulsa. Injuries precluded Glenn from accepting several Professional football offers so Glenn began a Teaching and Coaching career at Bacone College in Muskogee. In February 1954 Glenn was appointed by the President of the United States Dwight D. Eisenhower Postmaster of the City of Morris. He held his position for 37 years. Due to bad health Glenn retired from the Post Office in 1992, but remained active in civic affairs as long as his health permitted.

Glenn was active in governing affairs of the Muscogee Creek Nation and was elected representative of the Okmulgee District in 1979. The newly elected National Council selected Glenn as the first speaker of the Muscogee Creek Nation National Council under the revised Constitution.

He became affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and was Worshipful Master of Morris Lodge 471 numerous times. He was a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Bedouin Temple of the Royal Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in Muskogee.

Glenn also was a member of the Morris Lions Club, Secretary of Morris Alumni Association 1964-1985 and President 1986-1989, Treasurer of the Morris High School Alumni Association, Secretary of the Morris Cemetery association and Lifetime member of the 1st Baptist Church of Morris.

Moore was a dedicated musician and the leader of his own Orchestra composed mostly of his family whom he taught to play a variety of musical instruments. Glenn's band once performed at the Oklahoma Governor's Mansion for Governor Henry Bellmon's 50th wedding anniversary. Governor Bellmon was a close personal friend.

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Notices

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for their contributions to the Indian community in southern California.

All Muscogees who are living or traveling through the Golden State are encouraged to attend, said Ken Taylor, president.

War mothers annual soldier dance scheduled

FAIRFAX — Gray Horse War Mothers Annual Soldier Dance is scheduled for May 11.

The flag raising will be held at 2 p.m. at the Gray Horse Community Building.

Head staff include: master of ceremonies, Archie Mason; head singer, Scott George; head man dancer, Dillion Moore; head lady dancer, Charlene Poolaw; and arena director, Andrew Gray.

The supper break will be at 5:30 p.m.

Red Cloud Indian Art Show deadline announced

PINE RIDGE, S.D. — The 34th Annual Red Cloud Indian Art Show will be from June 2 to Aug. 11.

Sponsored by the Red Cloud Indian School Heritage Center it is the nation's largest show of its kind with artists of more than 30 different tribes represented.

Benefactors of the Indian arts have provided more that $5,800 in awards for this year's show.

The show is open to all Native American artists 18 years and older. Applicants must have a tribal enrollment number. All entered works must be for sale. All entries must be received by May 22.

For more information, write: The Heritage Center, 100 Mission Drive, Pine Ridge, SD 57770.

Euchee Boarding School gathering scheduled

PRESTON — The gathering of the "Euchee Boys" is scheduled for October 25 and 26 Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Northeast Region Center.

This year's guest of honor will be the Rainwaters who were employed at Euchee during the 1940s.

"One of our planning committee members Willie James passed away February 17. Our condolences go to his family. Please mark your calendar and lock in those days above," said committee member Gene Leitka.

Swine program participants place in spring livestock shows

OKMULGEE — Many Muscogee (Creek) Nation Swine Program participants have placed in their respective classes at their county spring livestock shows.

Those participating are: Ethan Whitehouse, Creek County, sixth place; Kari Hutchins, Creek County, fourth place; Ronnie Fulks, Creek County, second place; Sharee Francis, McIntosh County, third place; Alice Harjo, Hughes County, second place; Tiffany Treat, Okmulgee county, first place; and Jonathan Billy, Hughes County; and Anna Marie Grammer, Okmulgee County.

Treat

For more information on the tribal 4-H program, contact Extension Educator Jamie Littlefield at (918) 756-8700, ext. 610 or log on to its web site at: http://countyext.okstate.edu/muscogee-creek/

Top right — 4-H program members from Okfuskee County display blue ribbons they received for their rendition of "We Are Family" performed at the Okfuskee County Share the Fun program. Pictured, left to right, are: front — Nessa Tiger; Natasha Tiger; and Amanda Johnson; back — Jorena Hicks and Katrina Tiger.

Bottom right — pictured are Dustin 4-H Club swine program participants Alice Harjo and Misty Shoebottom.

Weleetka citizen seeks yard work

WELEETKA — Tribal citizen Nelson Harjo is seeking yard work.

Prices are based on yard, area size and include: mowing, price starts at $35; weed eating, price starts at $15; tilling, prices starts at $75; hauling, prices start at $85.

A package including mowing, weed eating, and picking up small debris in mowing area costs $45 for elder.

For more information, contact Harjo at (405) 786-4321.

Society

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Savana Jean Zackery

ADA — Savana Jean Zackery was born Dec. 12 to Steven and Jennifer Zackery at Carl Albert Indian Hospital.

Zachery

She weighed 7 pounds and 0.3 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Charles and Betty Fisher of Okemah.

Paternal grandparents are Wilbert and Ida Zachery of Weleetka.

Her great-grandmothers are: Lora Fisher of Okemah; Alene Starkey of Okmulgee; and Farrie Zachery of Clearview. She has one sister, Stephanie.

Yardeka Head Start youth participate in trike-a-thon

Yardeka Head Start youth visit with Clifford the Big Red Dog at a Graham Public School book fair. Pictured below, left to right, are: front — Cherokee Duncan; Zoey Wheeler; Makenzie Roberts; Edmond; and Brandon Murphy; middle — Heather Whitlow; Audrey Billie; Dalton Carney; and Kaitlyn Crawford; and back — Cheryl Davis, teacher's aide; Christine King, teacher; and Hannah Poulton.

Head Start youth recently participated in a trike-a-thon and raised $382 for St. Jude's Childrens Research Hospital. Pictured above, left to right, are: front — Whitlow; Mollie Frye; Crawford; Carney; Brandon Murphy; Billie; Roberts; Duncan; Edmond; Wheeler; and Poulton; back — King; Lisa Billie, teacher's aide; and Davis.

Birthdays

Elder celebrates 95th birthday

COWETA — Fannie Berryhill Chalakee was honored on her 95th birthday with family, relations, and friends helping her celebrate on Feb. 8.

Her party was decorated in various shades of purple, her favorite color.

Chalakee

Fannie was born 1907 in Okfuskee County to Joseph and Hepsie Jimboy Berryhill. She attended Bigham country school, Eufaula Boarding School, and Haskell Indian School.

On Feb. 2, 1930 she married the John Chalakee. Together they had seven children: Martha Reece; Louvina Frank; Daniel Chalakee; Joann Chalakee; Nora

please see **SOCIETY**..., page 8

Society

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Replogle; Johnnie Green; and Josephine Deere.

Chalakee is a lifelong member of Springtown Methodist Church, near Broken Arrow. She is a member of the Wind Clan.

Zachery celebrates fifth birthday

WELEETKA — Stephanie Lynn Zackery celebrated her fifth birthday on March 14 with a party held at Weleetka pre-kindergarten classroom.

Attending the festivities were all of her classmates in Mrs. Lee's morning class and her sister, Savanna.

Zackery

She is the daughter of Steven and Jennifer Zackery.

Maternal grandparents are Charles and Betty Fisher of Okemah.

Paternal grandparents are Wilbert and Ida Zachery of Weleetka.

Her great-grandmothers are: Lora Fisher of Okemah; Alene Starkey of Okmulgee; and Farrie Zachery of Clearview.

Reunions

Scott

TULSA — The descendants of Samuel Scott and Nancy McIntosh Scott or Daniel Scott, John Scott, Benny Scott, and Hepsey Scott Lewis are holding their 12th family reunion on May 18 at the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center, 8611 S. Union starting at 11 a.m.

Each family member is requested to bring a covered dish for the noon meal; the meats and drinks will be provided.

For more information, call Lillie Scott McIntosh at (918) 836-7931 or Helena McIntosh Girod (918) 451-1932.

Wacoche

MUSKOGEE — The 16th Annual Wacoche Reunion will be held May 25 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Bacone College in Wacoche Cafeteria.

Activities include: contests; volleyball; door prizes; fifty-fifty; and guest speaker.

Each family member is requested to bring at least one covered dish. It is also recommended that family members bring lawn chairs, cameras, as well as old photographs.

For more information, call Jean Berryhill at (918) 756-2318.

Chalakee-Berryhill

BROKEN ARROW — A Chalakee-Berryhill Family Reunion will be held May 25 through 27 at Springtown United Methodist Church.

An auction will be held at 7 p.m., May 25. Sunday morning service will begin at 11 a.m., May 26 with lunch following at noon. Games will commence for all ages. Talent time will be held at 7 p.m. May 26. There will be door prizes and gifts for winners of games.

For more information, call (918) 486-5461.

Berryhill-Tiger

OKEMAH — A Berryhill-Tiger Family Reunion will be held June 1 at Springfield United Methodist Church.

All descendants of John, Joseph, and Sam Berryhill and Turner, Sissy, George, and Ellen Tiger are encouraged to attend.

Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at 11 a.m. A program will begin at 1:30 p.m. with games following. Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish.

For more information, contact Clarence Yarholar at (405) 329-2445 or Rita Berryhill Williams at (918) 650-9758.

Obituaries

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Glenn loved horses and was an expert trainer and roper. He also trained Buggy Horses. Indian beadwork was another of Glenn's hobbies at which he excelled.

Survivors include: his wife, Jane; four children, Glenn, Marcy, Susie, and Lucy; seven grandchildren; four great grandchildren; and three brothers.

BRUCE SMITH

CHECOTAH — Funeral services for Bruce Allen Smith were held March 15 at the First Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Bill Welch officiating.

He was born in Tahlequah on November 18, 1978 to Robert and Sandra Harper Smith. Bruce was a 1997 Checotah High School graduate and had worked as a laborer. He enjoyed spending time with his friends and family, and loved to play cards and dominoes.

Bruce was preceded in death by his grandfathers, Owen Smith and Sam Harper.

Survivors include: his parents, Robert and Sandra Smith; sister, Kendra and Ruston Round; grandparents, Mary Lou Smith and Junior Frederick and Sue Harper, all of Checotah; aunts and uncles, Judy & Norman Clark of Nixon, Nevada, Sam Harper of Eufaula, Onzell & Gerald Keahbone and Nathan Harper, all of Checotah, and Raymond & Joy Green of Coppell Texas; and numerous other relatives and friends.

Interment was at Greenlawn Cemetery.

FELIX TIGER

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Felix Medester Tiger were held March 25 at the Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Dwayne Pratt officiating.

Felix was born May 17, 1925 to Phillip Seba Tiger and Annie Monday Tiger. He was married to Reta Wesley on November 12, 1977. Tiger was a Baptist Minister and also worked as an Aircraft Mechanic. He was a member of the Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by: his parents, Phillip and Anna Monday Tiger; two brothers, Stanley and Amos Tiger; and one son, Michael Tiger.

Survivors include: his wife, Reta J. Tiger of the home; two sons, Darrel "Bo" Tiger of Freemont, California and Gary C. Tiger of Tucson, Arizona; sister, Mae Jackson of Okemah; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Dennis Leeper; Phillip Jackson Jr.; Phillip Jackson; Mark Jimboy; James Jimboy; Robby Tiger; and Randy Tiger.

Honorary pallbearers were: Edwin Jimboy; Franklin Beaver; Donnie McNac; and Paul McNac.

Interment was at the Fort Gibson National Cemetery.

JOHN WATSON

DEPEW — Funeral services for John Thomas "Big Tom" Watson were held March 11 at the Church of God with Pastor Clyde McGuire officiating.

He was born in Dustin on February 5, 1916 to Santa Anna Watson and Annie Howell Watson. Watson graduated from Graham High School, east of Weleetka.

Tom served with the United States Army during World War II. He served as constable and Mayor of Dustin and was a bounty hunter. John was employed by the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority in Turnpike Maintenance until his retirement. He was a member of the Church of God in Depew, the Bristow VFW Post 3656, and was active in the Bristow Indian Community. He also loved to hunt rattlesnakes and watch his great granddaughter play softball and basketball.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, and two brothers.

Survivors include: two sons, Tommy Joe and Sandy Watson of Bristow and John R. and Judy Watson of Anaheim, California; one sister, Hattie Wallis of Bristow; four grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; his former wife and mother of their two sons, Dorothy Blue of Tulsa; and a host of other family and friends.

Interment was at the Watson-Wiley Cemetery located three miles north of Dustin, Oklahoma.

Gratitude

We would like to thank those who called, visited, sent cards, food donations, flowers, or expressed their sympathy in any way. These acts of kindness will not be forgotten and will forever be treasured in our hearts.

A special thank you to Robert Washington and Claiborn Fields for officiating the service and Dr. Phein and the nursing staff of Muskogee Regional Medical Center. May God Bless each and everyone of you.

Frank Billy Family

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, assistance by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and support in our time of need. Ted was a special person, not only was he a Pastor and messenger for the Lord to our Indian People, he was a friend to many who was within his heart with prayer. Our comfort is knowing that he is with the Lord and rejoicing.

Rev. Theodore Freeman Sr. Family

During the loss of our loved one, there were many expressions of love shown to us and we would like to thank those who sent food, flowers, and cards. Just a simple acknowledgment of words or even if nothing was said verbally, your hug or pat on the back gave us your message and meant a lot to us. Thank you to Belvin and Montesoma Baptist churches, Creek Nation, Okmulgee Indian Community and Okfuskee Tribal Town.

Lillie Mae Thomas Family

We would like to take this opportunity to send a heartfelt thank you for the thoughts & prayers, phone calls, cards and flowers during the recent loss of our dear Mother, Nakomis (Nicki) Fixico-Vela. A special thank you to the Greenleaf Missionary Baptist Church, Reverend David Hill and its Special ladies, Reverend George Doyle of Coweta, and the Yahola family for "Amazing Grace". Our love and gratitude.

Nakomis Vela Family

The Muscogee Nation News

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Committee hearing for complaints re-scheduled

OKMULGEE — A Muscogee National Council Fact Finding Committee meeting to hear complaints from pre-selected Creek Nation Housing Authority participants has been rescheduled for 6:30 p.m., May 2.

Individuals who will testify at the meeting were selected by previously submitting written complaints solicited by the Fact Finding Committee.

The impetus for the meeting is the large number of informal complaints, made to National Council representatives, regarding housing programs and services.

The Fact Finding Committee will be accepting written and signed complaints on an ongoing basis. Additional grievance hearing dates were not available at press time.

Written complaints may be sent to: Fact Finding Committee, P.O. Box 158, Okmulgee OK 74447.

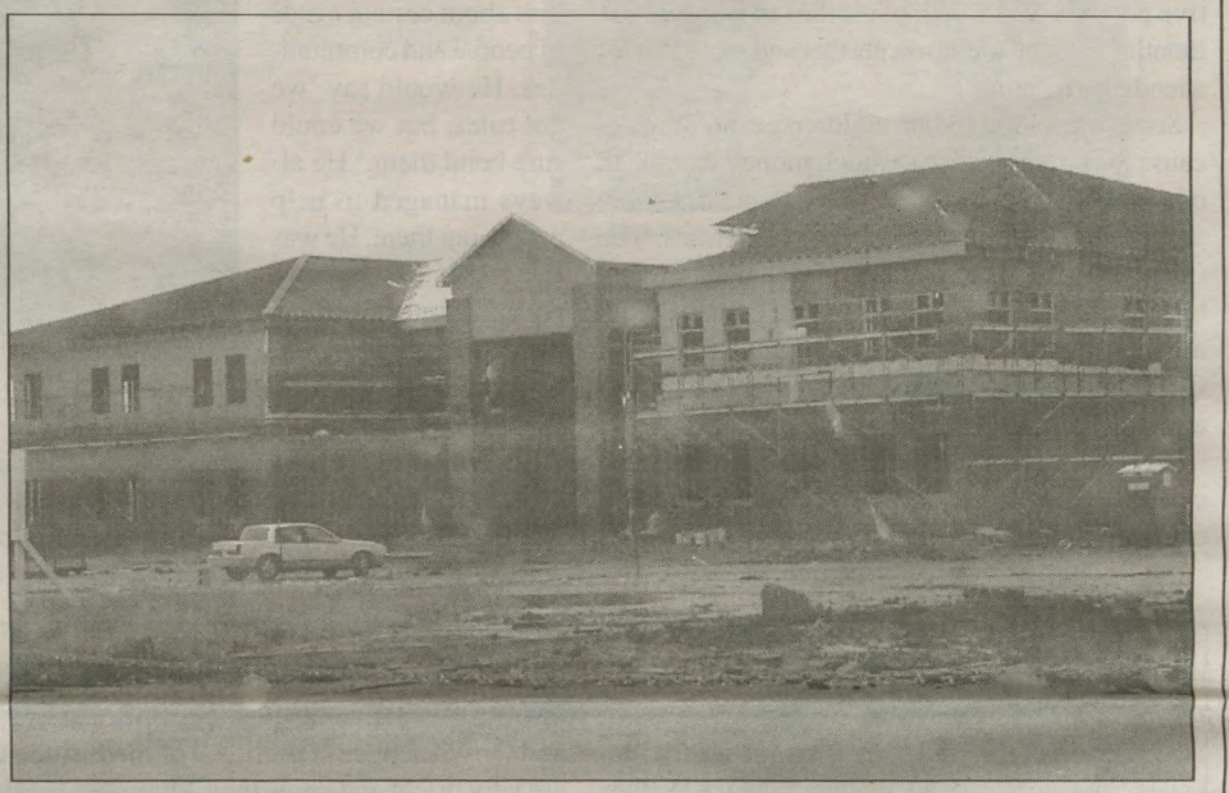


photo by Gerald Wofford

Programs and offices of Creek Nation Housing Authority are expected to be moving into its new location, pictured above, by June.

Mvskoke/Euchee languages section debuts in tribal newspaper; committee forms to contribute to revitalization of languages

OKMULGEE — A Mvskoke and Euchee languages section — Mvskoke Yuce Ohfvtcv/yUdjEha gOb'a gOyU'êdanA — makes its debut, as a regular section of the tribal newspaper, in the May issue of The Muscogee Nation News.

The section is the result of the work of a Maskoke and Euchee languages committee recently formed under the Muscogee Nation Communications Department.

The mission of the committee is to make a contribution to the effort of revitalizing the Maskoke and Euchee languages through communications department mediums. The committee endeavors to develop languages content and programming for the tribal newspaper and radio program, respectively. Making language resources available through a communications department web site are among its objectives also.

Committee members are: Fannie Barnett; Alfred Berryhill; Irene Culley; John Fixico; Wanda Greene; Richard Grounds; Ted Isham; Linda Johnson; Ramona Mason; Timmy Thompson; and Ben Yahola.

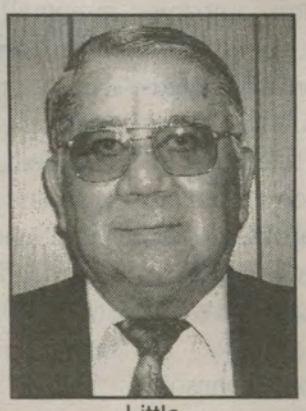
Muscogee People

Life of bureau educator, superintendent, and National Council representative remembered

by Gerald Wofford

On April 21, Muscogee National Council Rep. Harley Gene Little passed away.

Little is remembered by many for positions he served, including superintendent of the Okmulgee Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Muskogee District Representative to the National Council.



Little

He was raised at Murrow Indian Children's Home, Muskogee, located on Bacone College campus. Little was a veteran of the Korean War, having served in the famed 45th Infantry Division as a medic. He obtained a bachelor of science degree at Northeastern State University and a master's degree in education at the University of Oklahoma.

An educator at heart, Little began his career with the BIA as a boy's advisor at Jones Academy.

"I met him when I was going to school at Jones Academy back in 1966. He was like a dad to me and my brothers while we were there. I always looked up to him and he wasn't afraid to speak his mind; he would tell it like it is," said Steve Landsberry of Henryetta.

He held the position from 1954 to 1970. Other positions he had held were: Bacone College Dean of Students; Eufaula Dormitory principal; and Carter Seminary principal.

Little's enthusiasm for sports was evident in his title as an official with the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association. Little refereed in basketball, football, baseball, and softball games in the area.

see LITTLE..., page 2

Letters to the editor

School children need more clothing

Editor:

We would like to know why clothing funds for our children who are attending school haven't been raised.

They have been getting $75 for almost 10 years. I have talked to Council members and they have told me 'we'll get into it' and that's as far as it went.

Our children nowadays like to dress in the new style, not like us 50 years ago when we didn't have a say so. I would like to see a Council representative get only $75 worth of clothes to last for nine months. Council members get that and more just for attending a meeting.

Some full-blood Indian children get nothing because the parents make to much money. I think all of our children should be entitled to get it. I know Seminoles don't have boundary guidelines. The Creeks shouldn't place guideline limitations through boundaries either; when election time comes around absentee ballots are sent out throughout the states. Citizens living out of state should be eligible for everything.

We need to give our children at least $250 so they can get a good winter coat and shoes in addition to clothing. I am a concerned grandparent and clothes are high.

Naomi Harjo, Hanna

Little

continued from page 1

Little served as a Council member from 1986 to 1993. During the administration of Bill S. Fife, he served as tribal community services director from 1993 to 1995.

"When he was the director of community Services, I would go to see him about certain needs of people and communities. He would say 'we got rules, but we could sure bend them.' He always managed to help people out there. He was also one of the main supporters of veterans affairs while serving on the Council too," said A.D. Ellis, second chief.

Little, far right, is pictured making a presentation to Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver.

He resumed his service to the National Council in 1996 and had served as a representative until his passing. He is remembered as being an individual who was dedicated to his official duties. At the same time, he is said to have possessed the ability to balanced his commitment to fulfill his responsibilities with concern for people.

"He was one of the most dedicated Council members I've ever met. He looked carefully at every legislation. His concern was always for the people. I could also talk to him about personal matters too because he was a family friend to Jim, [Burgess' husband] and I. I had lot of respect for him," said Ruthie Burgess, former Council secretary.

"I served many years with Harley on the Council. He was a people's advocate and I mean everybody's advocate — whether they were Indian or non-Indian. He was always there to help and had an input to everything. I'm going to miss him; I consider him a good friend. We have lost a great friend and person [of] the tribe," said Larry Bible, Tulsa District Rep.

"The passing of any of our tribal members is a loss, especially if that [person] has served in the capacity that Harley did. His loss will be felt for a long time," commented R. Perry Beaver, principal chief.

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Today I had the pleasure of signing a very special certificate that we are sending to **Mary Walker Elsey**. Mary's birthday was March 30, 1899 in Eufaula; she now lives in Oregon City, Ore. Congratulations Mary.

I have also been invited to Holdenville to celebrate the 100th birthday of **California Fixico** in June. What a story these people could tell about the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and its people.

On April 10th I received a very unusual call from a non-Indian who owns an oil company in Tulsa. He recently moved here from Georgia and his oil business is not going well. He proudly stated that he was a Christian, but believed in Muscogee ways and history. He knew that his ancestors in Georgia mistreated the Muscogee people and he wished to apologize to the modern day Muscogee people for their suffering. His apology was accepted on behalf of all Muscogee people and we all wish him a successful future in Oklahoma.

Last week the tribal capitol hosted to the Johnson O'Malley Challenge Bowl. Hundreds of Muscogee school students from throughout the Nation competed for the top academic team from their school and the Muscogee Nation. All of these students are very bright and know their Muscogee history and operation of tribal government better than some of us. Muscogee language was one topic and we have many students who are fluent in our language. We are proud of them all. We had no losers because they are all winners to us.

Our Muscogee Travel Plaza is open and operating, but the official grand opening is on May 15th at 10 a.m. Dignitaries from the tribe, along with state and federal officials, will be on hand.

Also, the new mound building will be open by the first of May. This newly renovated facility is going to be a showplace of Indian tribes — home of the National Council, district court, and Supreme Court. This is another part of the Nation that represents all citizens, so you all should try to visit the mound and see it for yourself. It is open each day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Also, try to attend Council meetings — which are open to the public.

I would like to mention to everyone that the new street and sidewalk that leads to the new Okemah High School was paid for by the Muscogee Nation road program in the amount of nearly $600,000. The dedication for the road is set for sometime in May.

This is a sad week around our Nation for we have just lost **Rep. Harley Little**, a long time Council representative and tribal supporter. Our prayers go out to his family. *Mvto.*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Memorial Day observance to honor veterans

OKMULGEE — A Memorial Day observance to honor veterans will be held at 11 a.m., May 27 at the Veterans Memorial Monument located on the tribal capitol complex.

Lyle Deere, a Marine Corp. veteran, of Muskogee will serve as the master of ceremonies.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., June 5 and 19;

• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., June 6 and 20;

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., June 6 and 20;

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., June 4 and 18; and

• Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., June 4.

K.E.E.P. and Lupus screenings being held

EUFAULA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representatives Program is hosting K.E.E.P. (Kidney Early Evaluation Program) as well as Lupus screenings from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 8 at Eufaula Indian Community Center.

A nephrologist and a rheumatologist will be present at the screening for consultation with the participants.

The screenings are provided at no cost. There will be snack foods, lunch for volunteers and participants, door prizes, and information tables.

In other CHR program news:

• from 1 to 3 p.m., May 15 the CHR program is facilitating a presentation on H.O.P.E. (Helping Ovarian cancer Patients Everywhere) at Green Country Technology Center in Okmulgee. Paula Nevius, Oklahoma H.O.P.E. founder, will be making a presentation on early warning signs of ovarian cancer and the latest treatments available. The center is located at 1100 N. Loop 56.

For more information, contact the CHR office at (918) 756-1941 or 1 (888) 356-8494.

Travel Plaza grand opening being held

MUSKOGEE — The grand opening for the Muscogee Travel Plaza will be held at 10 a.m., May 15 at 10 a.m.

The plaza opened on April 1 and has a staff of 41 — including employees of its restaurant. The plaza is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The restaurant, which serves country-style cooking, is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day of the week.

The plaza is located at U.S. Highway 75 and Peak Boulevard.

Native American division holding workshop

ADA — Oklahoma Drug and Alcohol Professional Counselor's Association Native American Division is holding a workshop from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., May 10 at Carl Albert Indian Hospital in the main conference room.

The presenters are: Troy Jack, narcotic investigator for the district attorney's office in Ponotoc, Hughes, and Seminole County.

A Native American Division business meeting will be held from 10 a.m to noon in the same location.

please see **NOTICES...**, page 4

Kings Oil Co. requests blessing

photo by Gerald Wofford

Representatives from Kings Oil Co. Ltd.recently approached tribal administrative leaders for their "blessing" to pursue work on land within in tribal jurisdictional boundaries. Pictured, left to right, are: Hank Ray, president; A.D. Ellis, second chief; John Loren Sandford, Kings Oil Co. Ltd.; R. Perry Beaver, principal chief; and Jeff Hansen, Kings Oil Co. Ltd.

"We came because of the work in the oil fields that Kings Oil is involved in is in Creek land, and there have been many blockages that may have come down in history, and to receive blessings for the project. We need to talk with them and pray with them and that's why we're here.

Creek Nation Festival 2002 event entry fee and application deadlines

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Festival will be held June 14 through 16 at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

The committee is currently seeking coordinators for volleyball and horseshoes tournaments. Individuals that are interested in coordinating these events are asked to contact members of the festival committee. For more information, call the Creek Nation Festival committee at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979.

Junior olympics

The junior olympics will begin at 8:30 a.m., June 14 at the omniplex.

The deadline for registration is June 5. A parental consent form and copy of each participant's certificate degree of Indian blood card is required. A meeting for coaches/representatives will be held at 7 p.m., June 11 in the Human Development Building Conference Room located on the tribal capitol complex.

For more information contact: Esther Gee or Carmen Gore at (918) 756-2122.

Pageantry

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care is coordinating two Muscogee Nation pageants. Senior misses and little Miss Mvskoke pageant events will be held at 7 p.m., June 11 in the Independent Agencies (mound) Building Auditorium. Miss Mvskoke and junior miss Mvskoke pageant events will be held at 7 p.m., June 13 in the mound auditorium also.

The age groups for all categories are: miss Mvskoke, ages 16 to 21; junior miss, ages 13 to 15; senior misses, ages 55 years and older; little miss division I, ages four to six; division II, ages seven to nine; division III, ages 10 to twelve.

Participants must be at least one-fourth blood Muscogee (Creek).

Prizes include: miss Mvskoke — $2,500, crown, sash, and trophy; runner-up receives $1,000 and a plaque; junior miss — $500, crown, sash, and trophy; runner-up receives $250 and a plaque; senior misses — $300, tiara, and sash; little miss — all three divisions receive $100, tiara, sash, and trophy; each division runner-up will receive $50 and a plaque.

A stomp dance, to begin at midnight, June 14, will be held in honor of the Miss Mvskoke Nation 2001 and 2002 at the omniplex.

Rehearsal dates are: miss and junior miss, 7 p.m., June 3; and senior misses and little miss, 7 p.m, June 4. Both rehearsals will be held in the mound auditorium.

The deadline date for applications is May 27. For more information, contact the pageant committee at (918) 758-1463 or 1 (800) 205-3705.

Men and women's fast pitch tournament

The 28th Annual Creek Nation Festival Men's and Women's Fast Pitch Tournament will be held June 14 through 16.

The deadline for the $175 entry fee is May 31. Nonrefundable cashier's checks or money orders are to be made payable to "Creek Nation Festival."

Teams are limited to 24 men and 16 women's teams on a paid first-come-first-serve basis. Brackets will be drawn and teams will be notified by June 7.

For and entry form or more information: log onto www.org/creek/index.html; call Bill Dowdy or Ruby Booker at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979; or write P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Festival food and arts and crafts vendors

Omniplex booth space rental fees for vendors are: $125 for food and $40 for arts and crafts.

Space location is secured through payment of rental fees and will be granted on a first-come-first-serve basis.

For more information, contact Thomasine Fife at (918) 756-8700, ext. 222 or 1 (800) 482-1979.

Three-on-three basketball

A three-on-three basketball tournament will be held June 14 and 15 at the omniplex.

Entry fees are: youth ages 18 and under, $40; and 19 and older, $45.

The deadline for entry fee is June 7. No late entries will be accepted.

For more information, contact: Erick Starr at (918) 830-9638 or (918) 656-3250; or Julie Hightower at (918) 756-8700, ext. 371; 1 (800) 756-8700; or (918) 758-4239.

Notices

continued from page 3

The $10 registration fee may be made payable to NAD, ODAPCA. Those attending are requested to RSVP.

The workshop is being hosted by Chickasaw Nation Healthy Lifestyles Program.

For more information, contact Lydia Harrison or Curtis Hightower at (580) 332-6345.

O.I.L.S. expands application hours

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc. has expanded hours for accepting applications for services.

Applications are accepted Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m to 4 p.m. Its first Tuesday advice hotline has now been expanded to every Tuesday from 9 a.m and 4 p.m.

OILS was incorporated as a nonprofit law firm in 1981 and provides free civil legal services to low income Native Americans throughout the state of Oklahoma. It provides services concerning Indian child welfare, adoption, Indian land issues, wills and probates, individual rights, and tribal sovereignty. Its attorneys are available to speak with community and law association about Indian law issues at no charge.

For more information, call 1 (800) 658-1497 statewide or (405) 943-6457.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services is not associated with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of the Interior, Indian Health Services, any specific tribal government, or any other Indian services agency.

Program participant wins grand champion

OKMULGEE — Sharee Francis, a 2001-2002 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Swine participant in the 4-H program, recently took home a reserve grand champion award in the junior I division of Illustrative speeches at the McIntosh County speech contest.

Francis

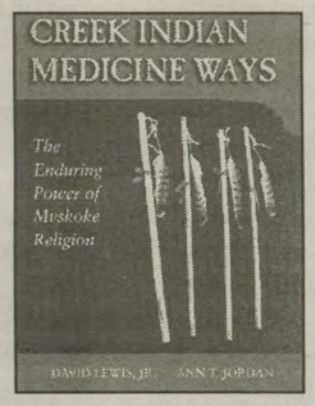
To qualify as illustrative, a prop must be used. She demonstrated the main learning points of her first 4-H animal project, which was "Socks" her Duroc pig.

For more information the tribal 4-H program contact the Extension Educator Jamie Littlefield at (918) 756-8700, ext. 610 or 1 (800) 482-1979. Her office is located in the human development building on the tribal capital complex.

"Creek Indian Medicine Ways" published

OKMULGEE — "In Creek Indian Medicine Ways," a book written by Mvskoke medicine man David Lewis Jr. and Anthropologist Ann T. Jordan, has recently been published.

In the book, Lewis, a full-blood Mvskoke and practicing medicine man, tells about the medicine tradition that has shaped his life. Born into a family of medicine people, he was chosen at birth to carry on the tradition. He shares his memories about his childhood training and initiation as a medicine man as well as his remembrances about his father and grandmother, who trained him. Lewis reveals part of the sacred story of the origin of plants and he identifies some of the plants he uses in his cures. He also describes several of the ceremonies his teachers taught him, stressing throughout the sacredness and importance of Mvskoke medicine.



In "Creek Indian Medicine Ways," Jordan traces the written accounts of Mvskoke religion from the 18th century to the present in order to historically contextualize Lewis's story and knowledge. "The book is a collaboration between anthropologist and medicine man that provides a rare glimpse of a living religious tradition and its origins."

Lewis, a member of the Muscogee National Council, lives in Yardeka community. Jordan teaches anthropology at the University of North Texas.

The ISBN is 0-8263-2367-7. For more information, call/fax or write Lewis at (918) 652-3841; P.O. Box 635, Henryetta, OK 74437.

Johnson O'Malley Challenge Bowl 2002

April 3rd, 10th & 17th

Lone Star Braves Middle School team includes: Ashley Pahsetopah, captain; Dawn Brown; Lesha Deere; and Matthew Gregory.

Members of Eufaula Ekv Cvto team won the high school challenge bowl championship. Picured are: Jered Jones; John Beaver; Mulline Davis, coach; Jamie Martinez; Mitch Tiger; Justin Jones; and Kent Kiester, head coach.

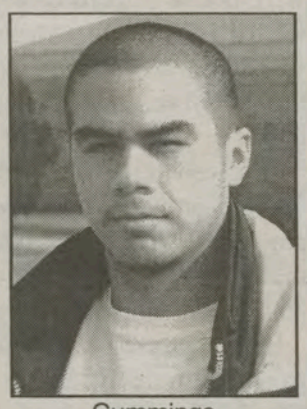
photos byGerald Wofford

The Wilson Katcv Luste team won the middle school challenge bowl championship.
Pictured, are: Minnie Proctor, coach; Andy Proctor; Anthony Wind; Marissa Bear; Nolan King; and Samantha Rabbit.

Miss Mvskoke Nation Dawn Thompson places a gold medal around Eufaula Ekv Cvto team member Jered Jones.

Eufaula citizen receives national awards

EUFAULA — Eufaula High School junior Josh Cummings has received several awards and honors.


Cummings

Among U.S. Achievement Academy National Awards that he has received are: National English Merit Award in 2001; National Honor Roll, 2002; and National Leadership and Service Award, 2002.

Cummings was selected for Who's Who Among American High School Students Award for the 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 school years.

He has participated in various activities and clubs throughout his high school years including — basketball, three years; football, three years; baseball, three years; basketball, three years; Future Farmers of America, three years; and National Honor Society, 2 years.

His parents are Washington and Linda Cummings of Eufaula. Paternal grandparents are the late David and Martha Cummings and maternal grandparents are the late Bud and Maybell Moore, all of Eufaula.

Girl competing in business leader nationals

GROVE — Eleventh grade Grove High School student Monique Harjo will be competing in the Future Business Leaders of America nationals to be held in Nashville, Tenn.

Harjo attends Northeastern Technology Center in Afton where she is taking courses in computer information technology.

She represented the Northeastern Technology Center BPA Chapter in the Business Professionals of America State Leadership conference held in Okmulgee and Tulsa. Harjo placed fourth in computer applications, qualifying her to compete in the BPA Nationals being held in Chicago, Ill. in May.

Harjo also competed in the FBLA America state leadership conference, representing Grove High School FBLA Chapter. She placed first in computer applications and second in word processing I.

Harjo is the daughter of Rachael Lowe of Grove and the late Victor Harjo of Strothers. She plans to further her education in computer science or computer graphics.

Citizen selected as state finalist in pageant

MUSKOGEE — Deagan Wamego, the daughter of Anthony and Naomi Wamego, has been selected as a state finalist in the Miss Oklahoma American Coed Pageant to be held June 7 through 8 at Southern Hills Marriott Hotel in Tulsa.

Wamego

The pageant is held for girls ages three through 18, each competing within their own age division. The winner of each division will receive a cash award, a full modeling scholarship, the official crown and banner, transportation and trip to Florida to compete in a five-day event with other state winners for the national title.

The pageant seeks to recognize the accomplishments of each girl while encouraging her to set goals for the future.

Accomplishments

Woman receives paraprofessional training

TULSA — Sylvia Davis Johnny, a paraprofessional at Dewar Public Schools, recently attended a three-day advanced paraprofessional training class at Tulsa Technology Center in Tulsa.

Language class graduation

photo by Gerald Wofford

Instructor John Fixico listens to a song performed by his language students: Kelsey Gibson; Andrea Hooper; and Dakota Dobbs during graduation ceremonies.

Some of the topics included were: a historical and legal foundation of special education roles; responsibilities of the paraprofessionals and family perspectives; safe and healthy learning environments; individualized education programming that included participation, data collection, progress monitoring, and identify student needs.

Johnny

There was also a debriefing on assignments-categories, disability awareness, learning strategies, and learning experiences. The classes also included planning/problem solving/communications and demonstrating awareness of the needs of learners with limited English proficiency. The conclusion of classes involved basic knowledge of disabilities, such as learning disabilities, emotional disturbance, mental retardation, sensory impairments, and other health impairments.

The classes ended with a presentation of a degree from the Oklahoma State Department of Education.

Johnny is three-fourths Muscogee. Her parents are the late Rev. Mack R. and Elouise Davis. She has two children, Michael Johnny of Oklahoma City and Michelle Johnny of Mustang. Johnny graduated from the eighth grade at Eufaula Boarding School, where she learned to appreciate music and to play the piano. She then graduated from high school at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan.

Her hobbies are reading and playing the piano. She is frequently called on to play the piano for churches in the area. She resides in Dewar and has been employed in the Dewar Public School system for 32 years.

Wetumka citizen participates in fundraising gala

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee artist James Mitchell was among Oklahoma artists displaying their work in the Orthopaedic and Reconstructive Research Foundation's spring fund-raising gala held in March at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club.

Hands Around the World 2002 "Cowboys and Indians," honored the state's heritage. The event included a private art show and auction benefiting the foundation's newest community outreach project, the W.O.R.K. (Working Oklahomans Receive Kindness) clinic.

The annual event benefits the clinic, a community service project providing free orthopedic and arthritis care to uninsured working Oklahomans.

The Orthopaedic and Reconstructive Research Foundation is a nonprofit organization with the purpose of promoting a higher standard of care through research, education, and community service. The ORRF provides medical services to Oklahomans with special needs.

Mitchell is the son of Jimmy Mitchell and Eva Jeanette Shimizu. He was raised by his grandparents, Sam and Elouise Mitchell, near Wetumka. He graduated from Wetumka High School in 1995 then attended Wes Watkins Vo-Tech and received a certificate of completion in Computerized Application and Design. Mitchell attended Bacone college in the fall of 1998-2000 where he majored in art. He studied under art director and Native American artist Ruthie Blaylock Jones, where he excelled in watercolor paintings, acrylic paintings, and also mastered his technique in pencil drawings.

"I was very proud and excited to be part of such a well sponsored, highly organized and prestigious benefit and having the opportunity to show my art to others, along with legendary, award winning and highly recognized Oklahoma artists as well as galleries. Also helping the Orthopaedic and Reconstructive Research Foundation achieve their goals to offer a spectrum of services to help our working community in need of special care. I would like to thank the Foundation Art Committee members and especially Jeannie M. Kovacs, MPA Development Director, and Ruthie Blaylock Jones."

Artist's work to be exhibited in Germany

CELLE, Germany — Broken Arrow tribal member James Brian McIntosh, an award winning artist, will represent the Indian Territory Gallery in Celle, Germany in August 2002.

He makes flutes, gorgets, and traditional beadwork.

McIntosh is the son of Doris and the late Jesse

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Society

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McIntosh and grandson of the late Rev. Ben and Ella McIntosh.

His work can be seen at Indian Territory Gallery, 114 S. Main, Broken Arrow.

Education

Bacone College reunion scheduled

MUSKOGEE — Bacone College is holding a reunion May 30 through June 2 in honor of Bacone's choirs. The theme for the reunion is "Echo's from the Past."

A public concert at Bacone College Memorial Chapel will be held June 1 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Ray Evans will be directing. The choir director will be Sandra Turner Peters and accompanist will be Dorothy Theyer Parris.

All former choir members are invited to participate. Registration begins May 30 and rehearsal will be at 10 a.m. For more information call (918) 781-7221.

Births and birthdays

Erika Marie Wilson

TULSA — Erika Marie Wilson was born Feb. 26, at Tulsa Regional Medical Center to Minnifee Delgado-Wilson and Manuel Perez.

She weighed 8 pounds, 15 and one half ounces, and was 21 inches in length.

Wilson

Her maternal grandparents are John and Lucinda Wilson of Okmulgee. Maternal great-grandparents are: Nicey and the late Soloman Wilson of Bald Hill; Raymond Barnett of Oklahoma City; and the late Cora Lowe of Holdenville.

Newspaper seeks submissions for senior high and college graduates

OKMULGEE — The staff of *The Muscogee Nation News* is seeking submissions from Muscogee senior high and college graduates for its annual graduates' section.

The section will run in the June issue of *The MNN*. To have a graduation announcement published in this annual section include:

- the roll number of the graduate (if the roll number is not known, include the Social Security number or date of birth and the graduate's full name);
- a focused, color or black and white photograph with good contrast (photos are optional); and
- include information such as: school name; and city; clan; tribal town; parents; grandparents; awards; activities; and plans and adhere to a word limit around 115.

The deadline for submissions is May 17. Mail submissions to: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or e-mail to: comm4@ocevnet.org. Electronically mailed submissions must be saved as a Word Perfect document.

For more information, call: (918) 756-8700, ext. 312.

Eufaula High School wins JOM Challenge Bowl

OKMULGEE — Proving last year was no fluke, the Eufaula High School Johnson O' Malley Challenge Bowl team again stormed its way through a field of 17 schools to capture its second straight JOM Challenge Bowl title.

The competition was created last year through the joint efforts of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and JOM program as a means of promoting pride in Muscogee history and culture by its young people.

The challenge bowl is set up similarly to a high school academic bowl, although all of the questions are on Muscogee history, both before and after the removal, famous Muscogee people and leaders, Muscogee government, culture and customs, and the Maskoke language.

For the second consecutive year, Eufaula's team "ran the table" and went undefeated in tournament play. The team is now 10-0 over that time and has two tournament championships to show for it. In this year's bracket, Eufaula roared past Tulsa Union 190-30 in the first round, defeated Wetumka 180-80 in the second, Mason 200-130 in the third, and Morris 230-140 in the semifinals. After waiting for the loser's bracket to play out, Eufaula again faced Morris in the finals and administered an "exclamation point" on its championship by winning handily, 260-100.

The team was paced by the tournament's all-around leading scorer, EHS junior Justin Jones. Justin had solid help throughout the day from juniors Jamie Martinez and John Beaver, along with freshman Mitchell Tiger and Jered Jones. After the championship, high school coach Kent Kiester said, "we were not to be denied today and it was very clear from the beginning who the class of this tournament was. Our team takes a lot of pride in its Creek heritage, and it was obvious at this competition that they take it very seriously. The Eufaula Indian Community as well as the school and the entire town should be very proud of these young people – I know I am!" It should be noted that the entire team remains intact for next year, and they will be going for a "threepeat" for sure.

Head sponsor and coach Molline Davis has worked extremely hard preparing the high school, middle school, and elementary school teams for this competition and all that hard work certainly appears to have paid off. Not only did the high school team, Ekv Cvto, win its second consecutive championship, but its middle school team finished fourth in their competition and also brought home the coveted sportsmanship plaque. Team members for the middle school team, Tuklvpatkv, were: Aaron Harjo; Brian Harjo; Randi Nester; Daniel Heneha; and Nickole Phillips.

Coach Davis had this to say after the competition: "On behalf of the Eufaula Creek Nation Challenge Bowl teams, I want to say *mvto* to the Eufaula Indian Community for their support in this event. I also want to thank Mr. Kiester for his assistance in explaining the game rules and regulations and for going with me as a sponsor and coach." She also added, "these students have worked hard, studied hard, and played hard — and this is why we remain champions."

Girl celebrates fourth birthday

HOLDENVILLE — Nicole B. Withers celebrated her fourth birthday on April 20 at the Holdenville Stroup Park.

She is the daughter of Michael and Barbara Withers. Withers is the granddaughter of Lucy Sewell of Holdenville and the late Archie Sewell and Bob and Betty Withers of Bowlegs. She is the great-granddaughter of the late Lillian Scott, Woodrow and Betty Stringfellow, and the late Lorene Stringfellow.

Withers

She is the great-great-granddaughter of Opal Stringfellow, all of Holdenville.

Society

Whitehead wins first place in baby pageant

SAPULPA -- Sage Marie Whitehead won first place in a baby pageant recently.

The 14-month-old is is the daughter of Orlando Whitehead and Chessa Tieyah, both of Sapulpa.

Whitehead

Paternal grandparents are Sharon and Steve Whitehead of Sapulpa.

Maternal grandparents are Debbie and Chester Tieyah of Lawton.

Her great-grandparents are Carolyn K. and Paul Herod of Kiefer.

Former MNN editor return to Texas

SAN FRANCISCO — Tommy and Brigitte Cummings, along with their three year old son Beaumont recently announced that they are leaving the "beautiful, yet pricey" Bay Area for the more affordable plains of north Texas.

Mr. Cummings, the sports desk chief at the "San Francisco Chronicle," will return to the "Fort Worth Star-Telegram" as a news copy editor. Mrs. Cummings, the assigning editor for the Chronicle's East Bay edition of the Friday section, is the new managing editor for the "Mansfield News-Mirror" — a publication of the Star-Telegram. The Texas-born Beaumont will continue being just a kid.

The Cummingses insisted that their departure from the Chronicle had "nothing to do with stepping on the editor's dragon bitten toe or dealing with liberal snobs."

"We simply gave the Bay Area a couple of years, and we still can't find a house — not even a doublewide trailer home — under $350,000 bucks," Mr. Cummings said.

"Man, no kidding," Mrs. Cummings said.

"I'm not going to get recruited by OU if I grow up out here," said Beaumont.

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HATTIE JONES

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Hattie Jones were held April 13 at the Little Coweta Baptist Church with Revs. Ernest Best and Gary Hawkins officiating.

She was born Aug. 26, 1908 at Lenna to Major C. and Carrie Wood Morrison. Jones was a homemaker and a lifetime member of the Little Coweta Indian Baptist Church where she also served as treasurer for 21 years. She married Adam Jones Sr. in May 1929 at Eufaula.

Hattie was preceded in death by: her husband, Rev. Adam Jones; her parents; son, George Jones; daughter, Tiny Jones; two sisters, Eloise Morrison and Hettie Robertson; two brothers, Jackie Morrison and Bufford Morrison; great-grandchild, Tesse Doyle; and grandson, Tommy Jones Jr.

Survivors include: daughter, Carrie Williams of Stidham; three sons, Bobby Jones, Adam Jones Jr., of Stidham, and Tommy Jones of Tulsa; four sisters, Lizzie Speers of Dustin, Dortha Reed of Lenna, Leora Copeland of California, and Mary Edwards of Arvin, Calif.; one brother, John Morrison of Ohio; fifteen grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: A.J. Jones; Terry Jones; Chadd Lemasters; Tim Jones; Jack Jones; and Carlton Dale Cook.

Honorary pallbearers were: Paula Hawkins; Bobbie Gail McLaughlin; Shelley Hunter; Kelly Smith; Regina Cook; Tina Marie Wilkes; Dana Johnson; Cara Williams; Lindsey Brantley; and Jackie Stevens.

Interment was at the Morrison Cemetery.

IRENE LEWIS

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Irene Louise Lewis were held April 10 at Yardeka Baptist Church with Revs. Donnie McNac and Matt Tiger officiating.

She was born on Aug. 11, 1958 in Henryetta to Robert Lewis Long Sr. and Neta Jacobs Taylor.

She married Walter Lewis Jr. on May 27, 1978 in McIntosh County. She was a longtime member of Yardeka Baptist Church. Lewis enjoyed traditional bead work, crafts. She enjoyed playing volleyball and softball and was an avid sports woman.

She was preceded in death by her father.

Survivors include: her husband; two daughters, Roberta Hamric of Henryetta and Felicia Lewis of the home; two sons, Santana and Jeremy Lewis, both of Henryetta; her mother of Henryetta; two sisters, Jessica Waddle of Okmulgee and Rena Patterson of Weleetka; four brothers, Jefferson Long of Arkansas, Andrew, Robert, and Billy Jack Long, all of Henryetta; five grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Jeff Long; Michael Winap; Norman McNac; Todd Chamberlin; Matt Chamberlin; Mark Taylor; Tom Taylor; Kevin McNac; and Chris Jacobs.

Honorary flower girls were: Kay Noah; Louise McNac; Pam Chamberlin; Marcy Hill; and Stephanie Ganote.

Interment was at the Lewis Family Cemetery near Dustin.

SHAUN SMITH

CASTLE — Funeral services for Shaun Edmond Smith were held April 13 at Prairie Springs Baptist Church with Rev. Richard Fixico officiating.

He was born in Okemah on March 12, 1983 to Paul E. Smith and Betty Harley Smith. He resided in Henryetta his entire life. He attended Henryetta High School where he was a senior. Art, his computer, and his friends and family were his ultimate enjoyment.

Survivors include: his parents of the home; two brothers, Ronnie and Michael Smith of the home; maternal grandparents, Tim and Lois Harley of Henryetta; paternal grandfather, Eddie Smith of Okemah; and many other relatives and friends.

Casketbearers include: Billy Ray Harley; J.D. Harley; Danny Tiger; Wayne Tiger; Amon Tiger; and Jason Smith.

Honorary casketbearers were: Cody Fitzpatrick; Ronnie Smith; and Michael Smith.

Interment was at the Smith Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

"In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethen, ye have done it unto me" — Matthew 25:40.

Words cannot express our deepest gratitude to those that showed their love, respect, concern and support by their presence, cards, phone calls, verbal support, prayers, flowers, home visits, and beautiful singing.

We especially recognize the following churches: Okmulgee Indian Baptist; Belvin Baptist; High Spring Baptist; Creek Chapel Methodist; Buckeye Baptist; Hickory Ground No. 2 Baptist; and Tulmochusse Baptist. God bless all of you.

Rev. Felix Tiger Family

Religion

Washington Family benefit singing being held

MUSKOGEE — A benefit singing for the family of and James and Billy Washington Jr. will be held May 18 at Muskogee Indian Community Center.

Singing will begin at 7 p.m. The masters of ceremonies are Curtis Kinney and Spook Wesley.

The center is located at 111 S. Virginia.

Ward Coachman memorial singing slated

BRAGGS — A memorial singing for Ward Coachman will be held at Sand Springs Baptist Church at 7 p.m., May 26.

The master of ceremonies is Curtis Kinney.

Ward Coachman memorial singing slated

YARDEKA — Hickory Ground No. 1 Baptist Church is holding a revival May 27 through 31.

The evangelist is Rev. George Harjocee. Services begin at seven 7:30 nightly.

For more information, call Roman Harjo at (918) 758- 0323.

Society

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Anniversary

Taylor's celebrate 40th wedding anniversary

DOWNEY, Calif. — Kenneth R. and Luann Vann Taylor celebrated 40 years of marriage on March 30.

Miss Mvskoke Nation Dawn Thompson and her mother, "Pete" at Easter Sunday services at Liberty Faith Center pastor, Kyle Taylor, is pictured in the background.

The couple has raised two children, managed their careers, and have been fully involved in their community. The Taylor's have a son and daughter, two granddaughters, and one grandson.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor

Mr. Taylor graduated from Haskell Institute. He continued his education by obtaining his bachelor's degree in 1972 and his master's degree in 1983. He has teaching, administrative, and peace officer training credentials. He was a coach for 31 years in basketball, cross country, and field and track. He is currently employed as a school based deputy probation officer for Los Angeles County. He is one of two enrolled American Indian on staff out of a staff of 500. Mrs. Taylor graduated from Haskell Institute Commercial Program in 1961. She worked for 24 years at Fullerton Superior Court as a court clerk, retiring in 1998.

They continue to contribute to the community. Mr. Taylor is a member of the American Indian Children Council and Haskell Indian Athletic Association. He is currently president of the California Muscogee Creek Association. The couple have attended Indian Rival Center for the past 36 years. He serves on the board of directors and is president of men's ministries. She is president of women's ministries and is praise and worship leader.

Community

Sapulpa holding Mother's Day dinner

SAPULPA — The Sapulpa Creek Indian Community is having a pot luck Mother's Day Dinner at noon on May 11.

Each family attending is requested to bring a covered dish.

The community center is located at 1020 N. Brown.

Mvskoke Yuce Ohfvtcv

yUdjEha gOb'a gOyU'êdanA

Cokv 1 Enliketv Ehvteceskvt/k'asO 1, shaKa 1 Mvskvlke Etvlwv Kehvse/dAshOnAzAfa 2002

En punvka socvfeknikvt kometvtos

OKMULGEE — Mvskokvlke Etvlwv Punvkv en tvlemecicvlke tokat este Mvskokvlke ton Yucvlke enpunvka punvhoye tayat nvkvftetvn makaken nvkvfteyvnks. Pon punvkatat estowetis kerret, sohyekcet, emacanet, follvke tayet tos makeyvnks. Pun putake tis mahayet onkat estimvt kerretv yvce nowat mo kerret folak nowat kerrvkes.

Punakv tvlemicet omaranet os. *Liteo* momen cokv tvlemen estvlemicet akerrickv tos. Enkvpetenvlket mvn akerrickv hayake tos. Momen, oh hatalakvt nettv kerrekotos estofvt vlileckvt omaranat. Este Mvskokvlke ton Yucvlke enpunvkv mvn asvpunvyet hvtvm mo Mvskokvlke en punvkvn hocicet ometvn akerrickv tos.

Mvskokvlke ton Yucvlke enpunvkv enkvpetenvlke asoksokat palen hvmkvntalaket tos. Hocefhokat: Fannie Barnett; Alfred Berryhill; Irene Culley; John Fixico; Wanda Greene; Richard Grounds; Ted Isham; Linda Johnson; Ramona Mason; Tim Thompson; Ben Yahola towaks.

Pokkecvlke estimvt owakv?/nAwAnû ne'lA wAyônda?

Billie Mae Sulphur Scott apaletos

Este hvmke kvskvnv fvtcv huerat Spencer Frank tos. Pomonayvks kerrhowatskenomat. ne'lA wAyôngwaTA wAyôndâ nAhôn.

K@TAlÂnAhanAnû nôK'@t'Eyû gO'wAdAnA-A h@lA nÔthla

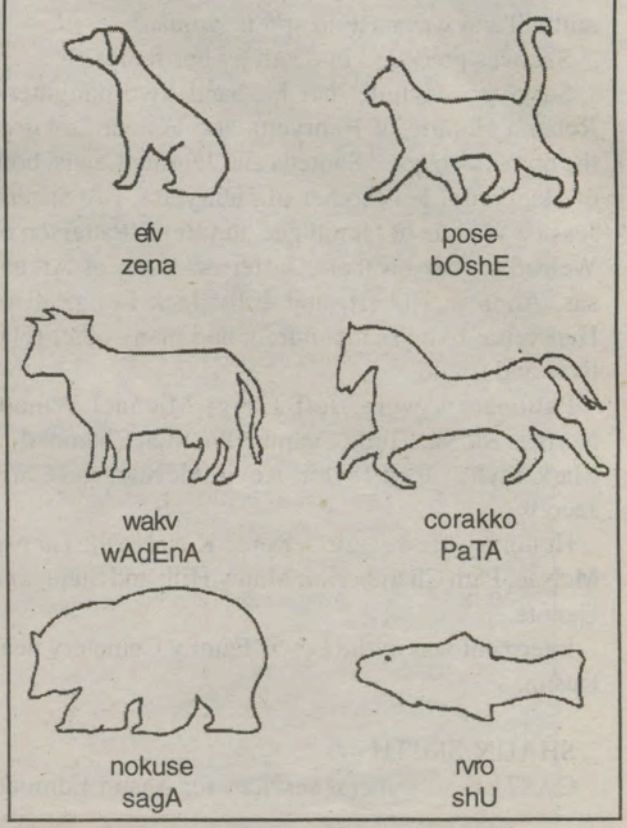
Maggie Cumsey Marsey

Ônda'lA SA thla gOb'a hendA yUdjEha gO'wAdAnA gOTanAhanAnû gOb'a KA'O'û gO'wAdAnA dasA wAKw@ wAk'û yUdjEha hendA gOb'a lAdA wA'wAdA *rAdEO* TalA wA'wAdAlA. gO'wAdAnA yUdjEha hendA gOb'a lAdA k'asO dEhA hE't'yû wAthla.

gO'wAdAnA-A dabalA nÔthla-CHE g@bE k'anÔnk'û.

K@TAlÂnAhanAnû nAhAnû ajU Fannie Barnett, Dewar afa 'OdA, Alfred Berryhill, Oklmulgee-hA 'OdA, Irene Culley, Okemah-hA 'OdA, John Fixico, ShabahA 'OdA, Wanda Greene, Bixby-hA '@s'AdA, Richard Grounds, ShabahA '@s'AdA, Ted Isham, Oklahoma City-A 'OdA, Linda Johnson, Ramona Mason, Tulsa-hA 'OdA, Timmy Thompson, Yardeka-A, OdA, Ben Yahola, Tulsa-A 'OdA.

Emponakv enhvteceskv hô'wAdAnA hOtO'ê



The Muscogee Nation News

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Timeliness of housing services among participants' major complaints

OKMULGEE — Creek Nation Housing Authority participants have consistently complained about timeliness of services and inadequate workmanship and/or use of materials during a series of National Council Fact Finding Committee hearings.

A May 31 meeting marked the third round of questing directed at housing staff and management, as well as testimony given by housing participants, which was conducted as part of the committee's ongoing investigation of housing authority problems.

Fact Finding Committee members' questioning has continually led back to what appears to be major problems with incomplete work orders and maintenance applications. During questioning, several staff and managers have attributed problems to: limitations set by the Indian Housing Program; limitations set by a National Council Act requiring legislative approval for amounts greater than $10,000; not having an approved budget; not having a line item budget; the length of time involved in environmental assessments; and lack of plumbers, electricians, and contractors.

I have no clear-cut understanding of what housing does except that people generate work orders and it sits someplace and gets moved around occasionally, said committee member Judy Aaron. Aaron said that she was disconcerted with management and staff's reticence to offer solutions to problems and their readiness to place blame upon other programs within the housing authority.

A housing authority report of incomplete work orders and maintenance applications — submitted from 1998 through 2002 — number at 209. Applications on waiting lists, as of April 2002, number at: homeownership — 389; low rent — 74; and emergency repairs — 31. Another concern of housing participants and committee members is quality of workmanship and materials. Committee member Barbara Gillespie feels that tribal dollars are not being properly utilized because of the standards of housing inspectors. Committee member Tom Pickering, who intends to reintroduce legislation which will enable homeowners to file lawsuits against contractors, says there is no recourse for homeowners currently.

"Evidently we have a name out there. Shaft the Creek people — give them...shoddy materials."

At 6:30 p.m., June 27 the Fact Finding Committee will prevent its summary and recommendations for remedying housing authority problems.

Creek Nation Festival time

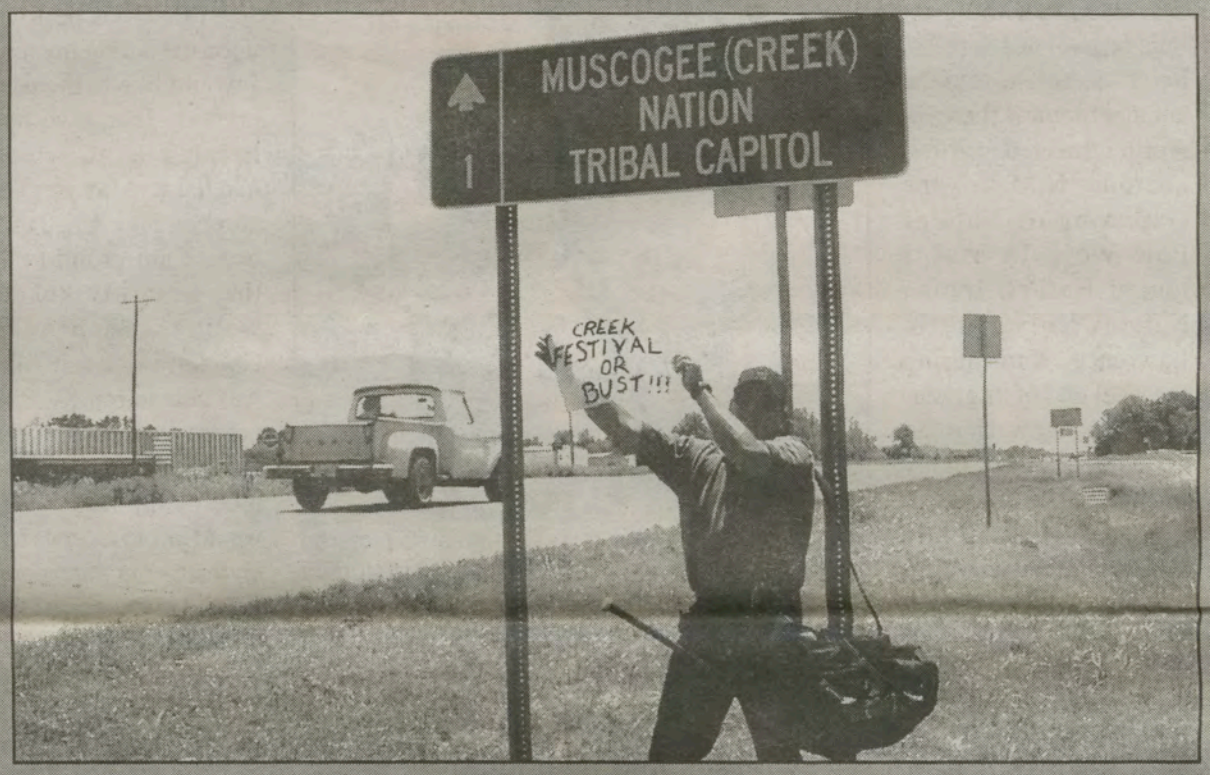


photo by Gerald Wofford

Tribal citizen Bill Dowdy is ready for Creek Nation Festival. See page six-seven for schedule of events.

Muscogee People

Hip Hop artist dispelling stereotypes, sharing message of esteem and enlightenment

by Gerald Wofford

Take a Muscogee writer, put in him in a musical setting, and you may just have something.

In Julian B.'s case you do.

"Julian B." is an artist in every sense of the word and has the resume to prove it. In 1990, he completed studio work with the Gap Band. In 1994, he recorded his own album, "Once upon a Genocide." The album has been referred to by music critics as the "only classic Hip Hop album" by a native artist. In 1998, the Native American Music Awards nominated him for "Best Rap Performance."

He has performed at the Green Party Super Rally in Chicago, Ill., Club Sevelle's in Pensacola, Fla., and an American Indian Movement anniversary celebration to name a few. Julian also had an international venue at the Montreaux Jazz Festival in Switzerland last year.

Julian B.

His latest recording, "Injunuity," was released in April.

He is more than a artist; his vision is to strengthen and unify native peoples as well as educate non-Indian people about the indigenous people of the Americas. "One of my goals is to enlighten the masses through education and heart-driven music," said Julian "There is a lot that goes on out in society today. I want to crush those stereotypes, especially about our Indian people. One way I find in doing that is through music."

When asked why he chose music to express himself, he says it was

see **JULIAN B.**..., page 5

Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation says farewell

It has been a great honor and privilege to be Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation for the year 2001-2002.

This has been a very busy and rewarding year for me and I will always cherish my memories of this wonderful year.

Every weekend was busy and I loved every minute of it. I was able to travel out of the state of Oklahoma on a couple of occasions. The National Park Service's Okmulgee Monument, Macon, Ga., held its annual festival last September. I was able to tour the ancient mounds there. In April, I traveled to Albuquerque, N.M. for the Gathering of Nations Pow Wow. In May I toured Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan. during the weekend of its graduation pow wow. Here, in Oklahoma, I gave many interviews. I was even interviewed by some people for their museum in Alabama. There were many pow wow's in which I danced — including the opportunity to participate in a traditional Alaska native dance. I modeled traditional clothing in quite a few fashion shows. I rode in various parades and visited with other tribes during their festivals. I spoke as a motivational speaker at a school and attended a couple of Johnson O'Malley meetings. I even got the chance to sing a Mvskoke hymn on the Muscogee Nation Tribal Radio Program which airs each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. The greatest accomplishment for me was getting to meet so many people. I met people of all ages, races, and religions within the Muscogee Nation. I visited with babies from our tribal child development centers, school-age children participating in the JOM Challenge Bowl, and wise and wonderful elders at our nutrition centers. I kept in touch with both the churches and ceremonial grounds. My heart was touched many times with all the kindness and respect that was bestowed upon me during my reign. I would like to thank everybody that gave me a helping hand when I needed it. May our Creator bless you all 10 times over. I am proud to say that I am Mvskoke as well as Euchee and Chickasaw. I felt like I was able to represent my other tribes as well. The Euchee Tribe offered much support to me. I would like to extend many *mvtos* to my ceremonial ground members at Duck Creek for their contributions as well as the E.U.C.H.E.E. organization.

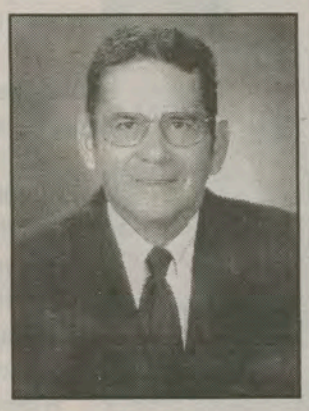
Miss Mvskoke Nation Dawn Thompson is pictured with Okmulgee Child Development Center student Carley Ballard, age two, after reading to the two year old class.

There are a few people that I would like to acknowledge for helping me with my regalia. They include: Janice Berryhill; Janiece Brown; Sonny Boy Dailey; Nina Gibson; Esther Grona; Candace Thompson; Liberty Faith Church; and Clifford Littlebear. There were so many contributions — I am sorry for not listing everybody. Thank you for your support. There could be no other princess more proud of her people than I. Mvto.

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Last night I, again, spoke to a group of graduating Muscogee seniors from Okmulgee County. During this time of year the chief and myself are very busy going from school to school to meet our Muscogee students. It is a real joy to see so many of our Muscogee students who plan to get further their education after high school. I apologize to the Johnson O'Malley students at Hanna for missing their program. I felt it necessary to stay at the capital complex until it was determined that it should close because of power outages caused by a storm.



The 15th of May was our grand opening at the Muskogee Travel Plaza and it was a huge success.

The 28th Annual Creek Festival starts June 14 this year. I am looking forward to seeing everyone there. I recently talked with a few city leaders from Okmulgee and the Pecan Festival; we agreed that someday, in the future, we might be able to combine the two together. This would provide a much larger crowd and a variety of entertainment for all ages.

Back to events of related to the commencement season — Okmulgee Indian Community honored all Muscogee seniors from Okmulgee, Preston, Morris, and other high schools, with a reception. A check was given to each senior as a small reward for reaching one of the first major milestones in their young lives. I commend the OIC people for their recognition of Muscogee seniors — as well as all of our graduating seniors for their perseverance.

April District Court filings

Civil actions:

- Star Loans vs. Amy Burns
- Credit Acceptance Corp. vs. Misty Stewart and Michael Johnson
- Credit Acceptance Corp. vs. Leah Harjo-Moore and Ramsey Harjo
- Western Sun Federal Credit Union vs. Jerry Wittman

Protective orders:

- Ramona Nester vs. Peggy Hampton
- Mileah Davis vs. Christopher Davis
- Luggie Bracket Hammer vs. Scott Hammer
- LaCreshia Cloud vs. Janaya West

Criminal — misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Harvey Gilroy — three counts: misuse of service or labor
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Leslie McLaughlin — count one: disorderly conduct

Criminal — felony:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Harvey Gilroy — two counts: embezzlement, theft, and false accounts

Traffic:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Rollin Clarke — count one: driving in violation of an order of the court

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at: an February 23 regular session; and March 23 regular session.

Feb. 23 regular session

Absent were: **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Harley Little**, Muskogee District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously (22-0-0), as amended, Tribal Resolution 02-001, accepting a request to provide assistance to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board to obtain new office facilities for division of health administration staff and medical services based in Okmulgee;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington,** Creek; **Tom Pickering,** McIntosh; **Thomas McIntosh,** McIntosh; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner,

• returned to committee (15-7-0) TR 02-003, approving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System compact agreement with Indian Health Services;

voting no were: **Aaron**; **McIntosh**; **Peters**; **Lowe**; **Fields**; **Quiett**; and **Kelley**;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) TR 02-004, authorizing the principal chief to execute an oil and gas lease on 140 acres of tribal trust property located in McIntosh County;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0), as amended, TR 02-005, supporting the Muscogee language continuity within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (19-3-0) TR 02-007, authorizing the principal chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in Okmulgee County;

voting no were: **Watson; Jackson**; and **Golden**;

• approved (13-9-0) NCA 02-001, confirming the renomination of **Alef "Nancy" Graham** to serve on the Muscogee Nation Health Systems Board;

voting no were: **Aaron**; **Warrington**; **Watson**; **Jackson**; **Golden**; **Peters**; **Lowe**; **Fields**; and **Quiett**;

Pickering was excused from the meeting;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 02-005, amending NCA 99-09, §104 (an ordinance creating a senior service department under the administrative branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation) to modify the hiring requirement for the manager of the senior services department;

• approved (19-2-0), as amended, NCA 02-006, approving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation clinic master plans and authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board to implement said plans;

voting no were: **Berryhill** and **Gillespie**;

• returned to committee (11-10-0) NCA 02-007, amending NCA 99-22 to require the principal chief to be a member of the tribal trade and commerce board and to authorize a member of the tribal affairs committee to serve as an ex-officio member;

voting no were: **Warrington**; **McIntosh**; **Chupco**; **Lewis**; **Johnson**; **Peters**; **Lowe**; **Yahola**; **Fields**; and **Kelley**;

• returned to committee (15-6-0) NCR 02-009, amending NCA 98-130, to change the department of grant program compliance to the NAHASDA grant compliance office;

voting no were: **Warrington**; **Lewis**; **Johnson**; **Peters**; **Nichols**; and **Fields**;

• approved (19-2-0), as amended, NCA 02-013, amending NCA 94-10 (substitute), §115 (4), as amended by NCA 01-221 (an ordinance repealing NCA 92-88 and establishing a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems (Hospital and Clinics Act of 1994);

voting no were: **Jackson** and **Golden;**

• approved (19-0-0), as amended, NCA 02-015, amending NCA 01-12, §1-112.D, to require retention of a record of amendments to laws in the session laws;

Jackson and **Fields** did not vote;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 02-017, amending NCA 83-17 (an ordinance providing procedures for the disposal of surplus tribal property);

voting no was **Jackson**;

• approved (20-0-0), as amended, NCA 02-019, amending NCA 81-18, as amended by NCA 88-14, relating to the term and qualifications of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court judge;

Gillespie did not vote;

• approved as amended (20-1-0) NCA 02-025, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Okmulgee County to be used for economic development purposes;

voting no was **Jackson**;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 02-028, authorizing a budget modification for the employment and training program fiscal year 2001 budget;

McIntosh was excused from the meeting;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 02-030, amending NCA 89-148, as amended by NCA 01-73, relating to the appointment and status of reserve lighthorse police officers;

• approved (17-3-0), as amended, NCA 02-031, authorizing a special appropriation to a Muscogee (Creek) citizen for financial assistance;

voting no were: **Warrington**; **Golden**; and **Almerigi**;

• tabled (11-10-0) NCA 02-033, amending NCA 89-19 (an ordinance establishing the office of the attorney general within the government structure of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation);

voting no were: **Warrington**; **Watson**; **Jackson**; **Golden**; **Almerigi**; **Nichols**; **Fields**; **Cleghorn**; **Berryhill**; and **Gillespie**.

March 23 regular session

Absent were: **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek District; **Harley Little**, Muskogee District; and **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee District;

The following veto message was acted upon:

• voted (22-1-0) to let veto stand on NCA 02-013, amending NCA 94-10 (substitute), §115 (4), as amended by NCA 01-221 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing NCA 92-88 and establishing a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems (Hospital and Clinics Act of 1994);

voting yes were (representatives followed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering,** McIntosh District; **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee District; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee District; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa District; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner District and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the order of business and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved (21-1-0), as amended, Tribal Resolution 02-006, authorizing the principal chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in Seminole County;

voting no was **Gillespie**;

• approved (20-2-0) TR 02-008, supporting the efforts of the Oklahoma Museum for History;

voting no were: **Watson** and **Golden**;

• approved (20-2-0), as amended, TR 02-009, requiring all uncertified lighthorse police officers to attend and complete basic Indian police academy;

voting no were: **Watson** and **Golden**;

• approved (19-3-0), as amended, TR 02-011, authorizing the principal chief to negotiate a supplemental lease agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the United States for the Indian Health Services Office of Environmental Health field office, to begin the procurement process for construction of the building and to negotiate potential financing for construction of a building for purposes of the lease;

voting no were: **Golden**; **Berryhill**; and **Gillespie**;

• tabled (19-3-0) TR 02-012, authorizing the principal chief to execute an amendment of the December 1998 "memorandum of agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the housing authority of the Creek Nation, Inc." to eliminate references to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a Tribally Designated Housing Entity;

voting no were: **Pickering**; **Lewis**; and **Johnson**;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0), as amended, TR 02-016, confirming the renomination of **Patrick E. Moore** as Okmulgee district court judge of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0), as amended, TR 02-017, authorizing the principal chief to execute an agreement for the removal of underground storage tanks located at the Okmulgee Indian Community smoke shop;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) TR 02-018, authorizing the principal chief to enter into a memorandum of agreement relating to the restoration of a wetland and riparian area located at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex for use as an outdoor learning center;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) TR 02-019, authorizing the principal chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in Seminole County;

• tabled (17-5-0) NCA 02-009, amending NCA 98-130, to change the department of grant program compliance to the NAHASDA grant compliance office;

voting no were: **Chupco**; **Lewis**; **Johnson**; **Lowe**; and **Yahola**;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0), as amended, NCA 02-024, amending NCA 01-207 (appropriating funds for the establishment of an elderly nutrition program and renovation of Sapulpa Indian Community);

• approved (14-8-0) NCA 02-033, amending NCA 89-19 (establishing the office of the attorney general within the government structure of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation);

voting no were: **Aaron**; **Pickering**; **Lewis**; **Peters**; **Lowe**; **Yahola**; **Fields**; and **Bible**;

• approved (20-2-0) NCA 02-034, appropriating funds for the purchase of vehicles for the lighthorse criminal investigators;

voting no were: **Golden** and **Fields**;

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 5

Creek Nation DHA announces denture program

OKMULGEE — On April 15 the Muscogee Nation Health System began providing dentures or partials to eligible American Indians at its health centers in Eufaula, Okmulgee, and Sapulpa.

Provision of dentures or partials represents an expansion of services available to the eligible Indian population at these facilities. The Muscogee Nation Health System identified three priority groups as targets for these services for fiscal year 2002:

• priority group 1 — individuals identified by the Muscogee Nation Dental Program as having been seen and treated at one of the Muscogee Nation health centers in Eufaula, Okmulgee, or Sapulpa and who are currently on a waiting list for services;

• priority group 2 — individuals identified by the Muscogee Nation dental program as having been seen and treatment started at one of the Muscogee Nation health centers in Eufaula, Okmulgee, or Sapulpa and whose plan of treatment for obtaining dentures is currently underway; and

• priority group 3 — individuals whose denture needs have yet to be identified by the Muscogee Nation dental program.

Applicant qualifications include: presenting Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card to one of the Muscogee Nation Dental Clinics; having a dental evaluation at one of the Muscogee Nation dental clinics located in Eufaula, Okmulgee, or Sapulpa.

Applicant responsibilities include: giving a 24 hour notice of cancellation; rescheduling missed or cancelled appointments; making his/her travel arrangements to each appointment; applicant must be able to present him/herself to one of the Muscogee Nation dental clinics located in Eufaula, Okmulgee or Sapulpa; applicant accepted into the program must agree to follow their plan of treatment; applicant must be edentulous (toothless) for at least eight weeks before treatment is to begin at the referring dental office; applicant missing two consecutive scheduled appointments at the referring dental office without giving a minimum 24 hour cancellation notice to the referring dental office may be cause for dismissal from the program; if applicant fails to keep an appointment with the referring dental office and does not reschedule their appointment with the referring dental office the applicant will not be given another referral. Applicant is responsible for rescheduling missed appointments; and an applicant needing oral surgery may receive enough assistant at the oral surgeon's office to get them ready for dentures.

The program shall provide one set of dentures or partials once every five years. If applicant has third party insurance such as private insurance or Medicaid, these resources will be used to assist with the payment of treatment.

To make a dental appointment call (918) 756-2700 between 8 a.m to 5 p.m, Monday through Friday.

For more information about this program or these services call the Okmulgee Indian Health Center Dental Office at (918) 758-2700.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in: Eufaula; Holdenville; Okemah; and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., July 3 and 17;

• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., July 18;

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., July 18;

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., July 2 and 16; and

• Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., July 2.

Social services accepting walk-ins applicants

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Service department will be accepting walk-in energy assistance applications starting June 10.

The following documentation is required to complete the application process: Certificate Degree of Indian Blood/tribal citizenship cards; Social Security cards; income verification for each household member; and an electric bill. Electric bills must be in the applicant or spouse's name. Additional documentation will be required for students ages 18 years or older and for individuals caring for minor children other than their own.

The social services department is also taking applications for air conditioners for elder Muscogee citizens. The program was developed to provide air conditioners to Muscogee citizens ages 60 and older and medically impaired individuals who do not have air conditioning.

For more information, contact the social services department at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 279.

Federal Regulations changes program guidelines

OKMULGEE — The code of Federal Regulations which establishes the guidelines for the Bureau of Indian Affairs financial assistance program has changed its definition of an Indian. In the past, the definition was included individuals with one-fourth or more blood degree of any federally recognized tribe. The current definition is a member of any federally recognized tribe. This definition is the first criteria in determining eligibility for the General Assistance and Miscellaneous Assistance programs in the tribal social services department — therefore, it is extremely important for Muscogee (Creek) individuals to contact the tribal citizenship office for information to become members of the tribe.

Auxiliary sponsors food service program

WELEETKA — The Hettie S. Burgess Memorial Auxiliary is sponsoring a Summer Food Service Program for the residents of Weleetka from June 17 to August 2.

This program provides free meals for all children without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Breakfast and lunch will be served at Weleetka Indian Community Center located at 603 W. Chickasaw. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m and lunch from noon to 1 p.m daily, Monday through Friday, with the exception of July 4 and 5.

Other activities for the children include a reading program, arts and crafts, and sporting events.

Health care resource center holding camps

TULSA — Indian Health Care Resource Center is offering two summer camps for Native American children.

Youth that have completed grades three through eight may attend camp during the weeks of June 17 through 28 or July 8 through 19, from 9 a.m to 4 p.m. This camp meets at the Tulsa Public School Challenge Course. A fitness camp

please see **NOTICES...**, page 5

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Clinics Earn National Recognition for Diabetes Self-management Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was recently notified that the Indian Health Service's Diabetes Recognition Program approved all four tribal health clinics for national recognition as a diabetes model site program.

Dr. Bernadine Tolbert, IHS Oklahoma City Area diabetes consultant, presented the award to Johnnie Brasuell, the diabetes management program coordinator for the Muscogee Nation Division of Health Administration at the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes quarterly meeting held April 19. In turn, Brasuell presented each clinic's diabetes team with an individual corresponding award.

Brasuell developed the Education Partners in Care (EPIC) program with input from each clinic's nursing staff. The EPIC Program is aimed toward newly-diagnosed diabetes patients and their families with the belief that the more the patients and their families know about diabetes and diabetes management, the easier it is on the patient to maintain the management schedule.

It consists of a five-session, interactive learning program that emphasizes home learning equally with program materials. Patients practice the home and clinical skills that will be necessary for them to participate with confidence in their care. Program evaluation shows that graduates of this course improve their blood sugar, making lasting changes in their daily behaviors and take a more active role in their diabetes care.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Education team with awards recognizing each of the four tribal clinics as a diabetes model site program by the IHS. Pictured front row are: Lynda McIntosh; Monnie Underwood; Dr. Lois Beard; Michelle Smith-Beckley; Pam Palmer; Mary Parnell; and Sherry O'Mara; back row — Connie Fox; Dr. Vark; Connie Proctor; Johnnie Brausell; and Gloria Moore;

The IHS National Diabetes Education Review Program is one of two accrediting programs in the nation that approves diabetes education programs. The other review program is the American Diabetes Association. The centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services formally confirmed this status by reporting in the March 22 Federal Register that the IHS is now an accrediting body for approval of diabetes education programs within Indian health care. Although the IHS program is designed specifically for Indian health care, it requires the same high standards of review as the ADA.

Dr. Bernadine Tolbert, IHS Oklahoma City area diabetes consultant, stated that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is the first tribal program to receive this national recognition. The national recognition status identifies the recognized program as a credible resource for diabetes education for persons with diabetes in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. It also means that each clinic is eligible to seek reimbursement from Medicare and other third party payers for the education services.

Notices

continued from page 4

for youth that have completed kindergarten through second grade will be held July 22 through 26, from 9 a.m to noon at Addams Elementary School. For more information, call (918) 382-1220

Tribal preservation, museum holding workshops

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Office of Culture and Historical Preservation and the Creek Council House Museum are holding a series of workshops to help revive and expand the traditional arts of fingerweaving and basketweaving, and .

The workshops will be held to teach citizens interested in learning how to teach these arts to others. It is hoped that a core group of teachers will be assembled to be able to teach other citizens about these traditional and ancient Mvskoke arts.

The workshop series will be held at the Creek Council House Museum located at 106 W. 6th St. The fingerweaving class will be held on June 8 and the basketweaving class will be held on June 22. Both classes will be held from 10 a.m to 3 p.m.

The museum, in collaboration with the tribal office of historic and cultural preservation, is also holding a series of classes through its Creek Council House Summer Arts Program each Saturday through June 29. The classes are: traditional finger weaving; traditional pottery methods; traditional basket weaving; storytelling; and Mvskoke language instruction. There will be two sections of this Summer Arts Program, with the first part focussing on training teachers to pass on the traditional arts to others. Almost concurrently, the second part of this Arts Program will focus on a program of arts instruction geared towards children.

There is no admission charge. For more information, contact Ted Isham at (918) 756-2324.

Council House holding reception for senator

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House Museum is holding a reception and showing for State Sen. Enoch Kelley Haney and a model of the statue "The Guardian", at 2 p.m., June 15.

Housing planning department requests participants complete surveys

OKMULGEE — The Native American Housing and Self Determination Act's tribal service planning department is working on new five year plan and one year plan for 2003 and is requesting that its participants complete and return surveys rating its programs.

It will be going into its second five year funding cycle in October of 2002. The Act organized the system of federal housing assistance to Native Americans by eliminating several separate programs and replacing them with a single block grant program. It also made funding directly available to state Indian housing authorities — or Tribally Designated Housing Entity — for implementation after having been sent to its state Indian housing authority for 20 years

It is required to adhere to federal regulations with the intent to provide affordable homes in safe and healthy environments to low income Native American families with preference given to low income tribal citizens.

The NAHASDA survey below lists eligible activities; rate them from one to eight with one being the highest priority:

1) Indian Housing Assistance Operating Assistance for 1937 Act (prior to NAHASDA) This is statutory; the recipient must maintain viability of housing owned and operated under a contract between the Secretary and an Indian housing authority pursuant to the U.S. Housing Act of 1937. ___

2) Development: acquisition (purchase of already constructed homes); new construction; rehabilitation (modernization and reconstruction); mortgage assistance (down payment and closing cost assistance). ___

3) Housing services: counseling; rent assistance; support organizations; other services related to assisting owners and tenants in maintaining their homes. ___

4) Housing management services: assistance in processing of applications; inspections; tenant selection; and management of affordable housing projects. ___

5) Crime prevention and safety activities: security and law enforcement measures and activities appropriate to protect residents of affordable housing from crime. ___

6) Model activities: housing activities that would serve low income housing residents (child care centers, community centers, administration buildings, homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters — a proposal describing all aspects of the activity must be submitted and approved by the Secretary. ___

Clip this survey and return to: NAHASDA Planning Department, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

All surveys must be completed and returned to the planning department by Aug. 30. For more information, call (918) 752-3207 or (918) 752-3256.

Julian B.

continued from page 1

more of the music choosing him. "It just comes out," he says.

But Julian's music is more than about exposing the wrongs of society, it is also about presenting a message in a positive manner. "I want to kill the image of the savage fighting Indian, but I want to kill the message with kindness. My music and my message will always be positive."

Julian is fresh from performing at Greenwood Cultural Center's "Bridging the Gap Hip Hop Symposium" on campus of Oklahoma State University-Tulsa in early May. The symposium was the first of its kind. Julian is a Hip Hop artist and wants to clear the confusion that people may have between Hip Hop and Rap style music. "Rap is more delinquent, a more materialistic message. While Hip Hop is more positive. The first word Hip actually stands for his or her inner power while Hop is for helping oppressed people. I hope that non-Indians who listen to my music come away with a better understanding of the world's situation and everyone in it. We are all children here and we have to live in this world."

Julian says that he hopes that his music reinforces esteem among Indians that are listening. Anything that we, as Indian people, set our hearts and minds to is within our grasp, he believes.

Julian records out of Injunuity Studios in Dewar under the label Hot Commodity Records. Later this summer, Julian B. plans to host a celebration for the release of "Injunuity" in the Okmulgee and Tulsa areas with the public being invited.

He belongs to the Bear Clan and Apekv Tribal Town and is the son of Linda Lowe and Rex Watson, both of Dewar.

Although Julian and his music are becoming quite known throughout the country, his listening audience is still relatively new in the Oklahoma area. "I would love to play the Muscogee (Creek) Festival sometime," he said. "I would love to share with my people the joy and message of my music."

His music can be heard locally on "Fresh Jams" 105.3 FM in Tulsa. His newest released can be purchased at On Cue record store in Okmulgee and at Starship Records and Tapes in Tulsa.

Perhaps next year, Julian B. will be invited to share his music with the Muscogee people at the Creek Nation Festival. Only then may we really start to hear his music and his message.

Council

continued from page 3

• approved (19-3-0) NCA 02-037, authorizing a special appropriation to assist the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee Travel Plaza in driveway repairs;

voting no were: **Aaron**; **Golden**; and **Fields**;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 02-038, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H program in youth development activities;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 02-039, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program;

Lewis did not vote;

• tabled (20-2-0) NCA 02-040, amending NCA 97-100, as amended by NCA 98-70, and amending NCA 98-130 and NCA 98-131, to be codified in title 24, "Housing," of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to eliminate references to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a "Tribally Designated Housing Entity;"

voting no were: **Lewis** and **Johnson**;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 02-041, authorizing the expenditure of the Native American Caregiver Support Program Grant;

Barnett did not vote for the remainder of the session;

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 02-042, authorizing a special appropriation to Bacone College for their multi-cultural festival;

voting no was **Golden**;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 02-043, amending NCA 97-01 (granting permanent exemption and priority status to all documented original allottees making them all eligible for all tribally funded client service programs irregardless of said program guidelines);

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 02-044, appropriating funds to the Senior Methodist organization of the Northeast District for the annual camp meeting of the United Methodist Church; and

• approved (20-0-0), as amended, NCA 02-051, appropriating funds for the 28th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival;

Bible did not vote for the remainder of the session.

In other business the Council:

• approved (19-0-0) TR 02-021, supporting the Haskell Indian Nations University Wetlands Preservation Organization in its opposition to the South Lawrence Trafficway;

Hufft did not vote for the remainder of the session;

• approved (16-2-0), as amended, TR 02-010, confirming Washington Cummings as the chief of the lighthorse administration;

voting no were: **Watson** and **Golden**;

Lowe did not vote for the remainder of the session; and

• approved (17-1-0) TR 02-013, confirming the nomination of **Anderson Hale** to serve the remaining term of **Hugh Ed Johnson** on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority Board;

voting no was **Aaron**.

28th Annual

Creek Nation Festival

The Past- Our Heritage

The Future - Our Challenge

Festival highlights

Tues., June 11

Pageant

At 7 p.m. a Senior Ms. and Little Miss Muscogee Nation pageant will be held at the mound building.

The following are the contestants for Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation (55 years and over):

- Ella Bailey;
- Betsy Factor; and
- Martha Reece.

Contestants for the Senior Ms. pageant will be judged in the areas of: poise; personality; dress; and talent.

The following are the contestants for Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Division I (ages four to six):

- Alexandria Anderson;
- Micckah Brown;
- Destiny Dunn;
- Kaitlyn Factor;
- Lola Hill;
- Cassie Jackson;
- Kayla Pritchett;
- Heaven Proctor;
- Kyrah Roberts;
- Whitley Taylor;
- Tiarra Thomas; and
- Brina Williams.

The following are the contestants for Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Division II (ages seven to nine):

- Sierra Brown;
- Elisa Fields; and
- Robin Hicks.

The following are the contestants for Miss Mvskoke Nation Division III (ages 10 to 12):

- Nya Beasley;
- Malissa Beaver;
- Channena Henneha;
- Cheyenne Jones; and
- Taylor Tiger.

The deadline date for applications has passed, therefore no additional entries will be accepted. The pageant is being coordinated by the Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care. For more information, call (918) 758-1463 or 1 (800) 205-3705.

Thurs., June 13

Pageant

The following are the contestants for Miss Mvskoke Nation (ages 16 to 21):

- Rachael Barnett;
- Allie Maha;
- Jade McIntosh;
- Elisha Scott;
- Ashley Walton; and
- Laura Anne Wilson.

The following are the contestants for Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation (ages 13 to 15):

- Holly Dunn;
- Speedy Harley;
- Jennifer Kelly;
- Brenna Littlehead;
- Nickole Phillips;
- Meagan Walton; and
- Rebecca Wilbourn.

The deadline date for applications has passed, therefore no additional entries will be accepted. The pageant is being coordinated by the Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care. For more information, call (918) 758-1463 or 1 (800) 205-3705.

Festival sched

All events will be held at the Omn

Tues., June 11

7 p.m. — Little & Sr. Ms. pa

Thurs., June 13

7 p.m. — Miss Mvskoke & Junior
mound au

Fri., June 14

8:00 a.m. — Ju
6 p.m. — Men & womens fas
6 p.m. — 3 on 3 bas
6 p.m. — Volleyb
7 p.m. — "Wild Bill & th
8:00 p.m. —Oklahoma
8 p.m. — All I
8:30 p.m. — "Gol
10 p.m. — "Davi
11:30 p.m. — Tra

Sat., June 15

7:30 a.m. — 5K run, east
8 a.m. — Golf tournament, C
8 a.m. — Men & womens fa
8 a.m. — Volleyb
8 a.m. — 3 on 3 bas
9 a.m. — Horse
12:30 p.m. — Message from P
1 p.m. —
3 p.m. — "Me
4:30 p.m. — "S
5:30 p.m. —
6:30 p.m. — Sen. Enoch Ke
7:30 p.m. — "Che
8 p.m. — Oklahon
8 p.m. — All
9 p.m. — "

Sun., June 16

8 a.m. — Men & womens fa
8 a.m. — Gol

Admission

There is no admission charge to any

Vendors

Arts & crafts and food booths will be
end.

ule of events
plex unless listed otherwise

geant, mound auditorium

Miss Mvskoke Nation pageant,
litorium

ior olympics
pitch softball tournament
etball tournament
all tournament
Awesome Possums"
rofessional Wrestling
dian rodeo
Wing Express"
l Ball" concert
litional dancing

side of mound building
bblestone Creek, Glenpool
t pitch softball tournament
all tournament
ketball tournament
shoe contest
ncipal Chief R. Perry Beaver
"Siren"
dicine Pony"
hilin Vic Band"
ree hog fry
ly Haney, "The Guardian"
oon Tiger Band"
a Pro Wrestling
ndian rodeo
ed Bone"

t pitch softball tournament
tournament

of the events.

available throughout Festival week-

Fri., June 14

Senior activities

Activities for elders will be held at the Okmulgee Nutrition Center, located in the human development building on the tribal complex, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs will be served from noon to 1 p.m.

Activities and games including arts and crafts, bingo, gift walk, horseshoes, and domino tournament will be offered.

For more information, contact Waquita Bear at (918) 756-8700, ext. 634.

Junior Olympics

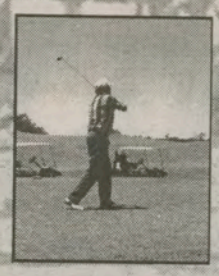
The junior olympics will begin at 8 a.m., June 14 at the omniplex track. The olympics offer Indian youth ages six to 15 the opportunity to compete in track events.

The events are: 30 meter dash; 50 meter dash; 100 meter dash; 200 meter dash; 400 meter dash; 400 meter relay; one mile run; hoop shot; and softball throw.

The deadline date for registration is June 5. The olympics are being coordinated by the Muscogee Nation Children and Family Services. For more information, call (918) 756-2112 or 1 (800) 521-5432.

Golf tournament

A golf scramble will begin at 8 a.m., June 14th at Cotton Creek Golf Course located two blocks west of U.S. Highway 75 on 181st Street, south of Glenpool. The scramble entry fee for Fri., June 14th is $50 and includes cart and green fees.



Registration will begin at noon; tournament start time is 1 p.m.

The June 15th and 16th entry fee is $70 and includes cart and green fees and Saturday lunch.

On June 15th players are responsible for scheduling tee times. An 8 a.m. shotgun start will begin the tournament June 16th.

Flights include: men's — championship and A,B & C; women's — A & B; and seniors — A & B.

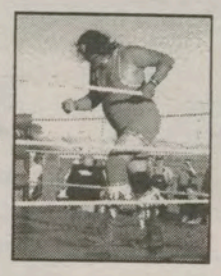
Players must have tribal enrollment or Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card to play.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top finishers in each flight.

Longest drives and closest to the pin contests will be awarded for men, women and seniors. Private carts are allowed.

For more information or to register call, William Freeman at (918) 756-8700 exts. 221 or 222 or Cotton Creek at (918) 827–3673.

Oklahoma Pro Wrestling



Returning to the festival venue is Oklahoma Professional Wrestling.

Bouts will begin at 8 p.m at the omniplex.

Country & western acts

David Ball, has roots steeped in the country two-steppin', good-time western dance hall. From the cowboy h**Fri., June 14**at perched atop his fiery red hair to his big cowboy boots...he's got that let's have fun, aw shucks kind of appeal.

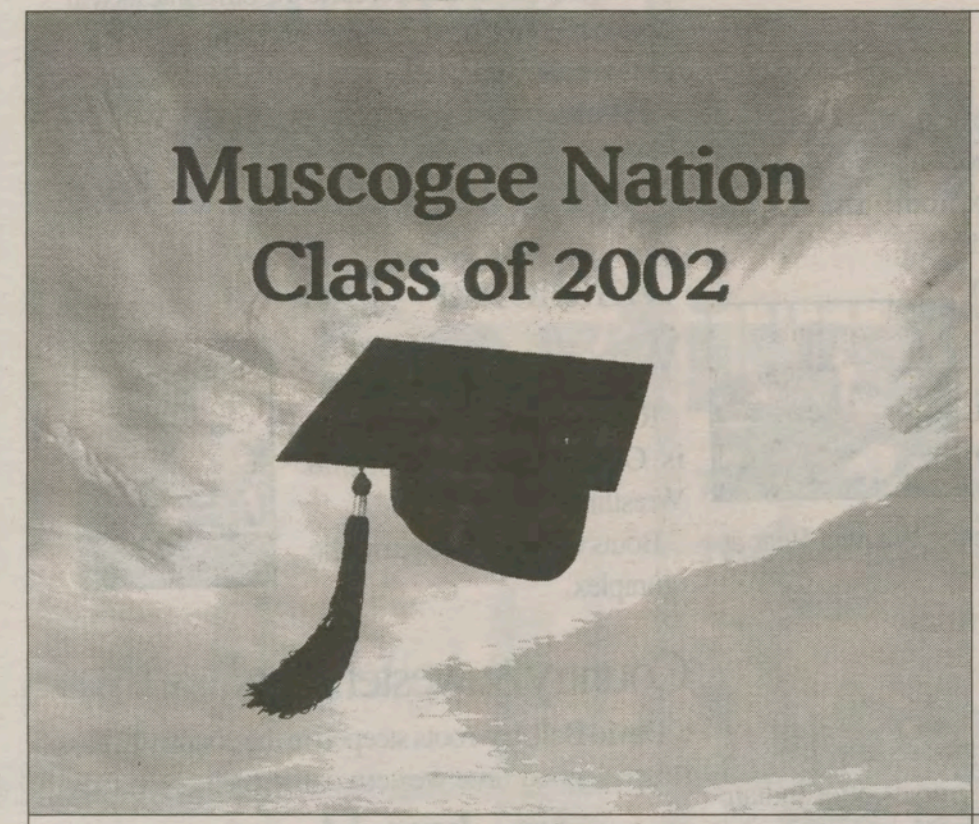
David saw his first performer in concert when his parents took him to see Fred Kirby in Charlotte, N.C. Just five years old, he still remembers Kirby's cowboy suit and the song he sang "Big Rock Candy Mountain." The lasting impression of performing in concert was the shape of things to come.

In the late 80s he moved to Nashville and made a contract with producer Blake Chancey. One day a director at Warner Bros. was asked to listen to Ball play and the rest is history. His first Warner Bros. album "Thinkin' Problem" earned a gold record and a number one video. His current hit "Riding with Private Malone" is rated in the top 40 in country music. Chancey has nicknamed Ball 'the human jukebox'. Just give him a guitar and he'll keep singing. "I love playing music and I think it shows. Give me a guitar, a band, and a dance hall full of people, and we're gonna have a great time!"

Traditional dancing

A "traditional" stomp dance will be held near the stage area of the omniplex at 11:30 p.m.

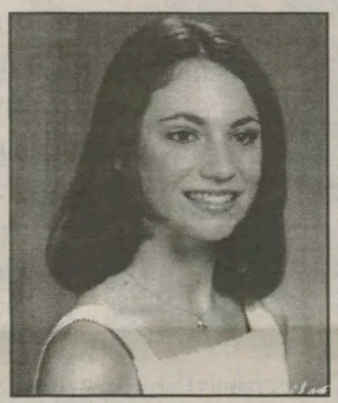
Dancing will be led by local ceremonial grounds peoples. All leaders and shell shakers are encouraged to participate.



Jennifer Carol Bailey

Oologah-Talala High School
Parents: Carol and Keith Bailey of Oologah
Grandparents: Judy and Gordon Peck of Tulsa; and Bernice and the late Doyle Bailey of Bixby
Awards: Foreign language awards in French I and II; Academic letter "O" Award, 4 years; Oklahoma Academic Scholar; Masonic Essay Award; Superintendent's Honor Roll, 8 years; and graduate of distinction honors
Activities: State Honor Society, 4 years; band, 6 years; sophomore and junior band attendant; band queen senior year; member of Youth Alive and OCF, 2 years; and secretary her junior year
Plans: to attend Rogers State University

Jennifer Ann Bruner



Spring Wood High School, Houston, Texas
Parents: Kim and Carla Bruner of Houston, Texas
Grandparents: the late Jewel D. Bruner of Carson, Oklahoma
Activities: orchestra and Tigerette drill team where she was elected Social Officer her senior year
Plans: to attend Sam Houston State University and will major in History and minor in Secondary Education

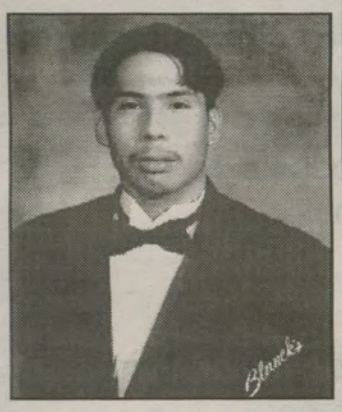
Barbara Joy Flud

University of Oklahoma-Tulsa
Degree: masters of public health administration
Parents: Mike Endres of Preston and Barbara Lane of Wilson
Grandparents: Dorothy Pinezaddleby of Okmulgee; Jim Holata of Wewoka; and Ruth Endres of Preston
Awards: graduated with a Bachelors of Nutritional Science in 1997 from the University of Oklahoma-Norman and is a registered dietitian
Activities: American College of Healthcare Executives; National WIC Association Board of Directors as the Southwest Region representative; and has been employed with the Creek Nation since 1994 as the Director of the WIC Program

Alicia B. Hernanadez

Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas
Degree: graduated *Magna Cum Laude* with a bachelor's degree in finance
Parents: Paula and Doug White of Katy, Texas; and Tony Hernandez of Waco, Texas
Grandparents: Edith Marie Childers Lemon
Plans: currently working a contract job in Katy, Texas and is seeking permanent employment as a financial analyst

Brandon Ross Lena



Sasakwa High School
Clan and Tribal Town: Wind and Greenleaf
Parents: Alene Deere of Wewoka and Bobby G. Lena of Glenpool
Grandparents: Edward E. and the late Ina M. Deere of Wewoka; and Robert A. and the late Wanda Lena of Wewoka
Awards: In Appreciation for Contribution and Dedication in football and basketball award
Activities: football, 3 years; and basketball, 3 years
Plans: to attend a Vo-Tech of his choice

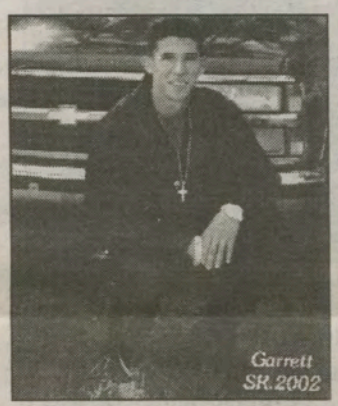
Rachel Mosquito

Liberty Public Schools, Mounds
Parents: Rex and Robbie Mosquito
Grandparents: Joe and the late Lena Berryhill Mosquito; and John and Anna Jones
Awards: Oklahoma Honor Society; Who's Who; Oklahoma Indian Honor Society; Superintendent honor roll; and Frisco All Conference in basketball and softball
Activities: student council; basketball; softball; gifted and talented; class treasurer; and church youth group
Plans: to attend the University of Oklahoma and to attain a degree in teaching

Sharry Louisa Mouss

Henryetta High School
Parents: Edward and Sharon Mouss
Grandparents: the late Albert and Gladys Mouss of Tulsa; and the late James and Carmen Fife of Dustin
Awards: Academic Letterman; Henryetta Education Foundation Academic Excellence Award, 2001; and honor roll
Activities: National Honor Society; choir; Spanish Club; softball; and attends Thlewarle Indian Baptist Church
Plans: to attend the University of Central Oklahoma and major in fashion marketing

Garrett O'Neal

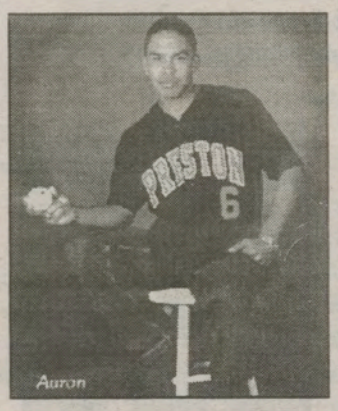


Preston High School
Parents: Shawn and Barbara O'Neal of Okmulgee
Grandparents: Annie O'Field of the Twin Hills community
Awards: honorable mention to All State and nominated to the Eight Star All Conference and Indian All-Conference
Activities: varsity basketball, 4 years
Plans: to attend college

Samantha Jean Rangel

Sapulpa High School
Parents: Joe and Virginia Rangel
Grandparents: the late Leonard L. and Mary Bevenue
Awards: Outstanding Female Choir Student, 2002; Minority Academic scholarship and music scholarship
Activities: Spanish National Honor Society; Sapulpa Big Blue band; Marching Band, 4 years; Symphonic Band, 3 years; Oklahoma Music Education Directors Jazz Choir, 2002; Sapulpa Jazz Choir Syncopation, 2002; Blue Blazed Marvel, 3 years; All-State Choirs and Chorus member, 3 years; and superior ratings for all vocal performance contests, 3 years
Plans: to attend Oklahoma State University and major in vocal music education

Aaron Daniel Tecumseh



Preston High School
Parents: Andrew and Louise Tecumseh of Twin Hills
Grandparents: the late Jay and Annie Haynes of Okmulgee; and Evelyn and the late Andy Tecumseh of Twin Hills
Awards: America's Who's Who Among America's High School Students; National Scholar/Athlete of the year award; 3.83 grade point average; and honor roll
Activities: baseball team, 4 years; Academic Team; gifted and talented; and attends First Baptist Church of Preston
Plans: to attend college and continue playing baseball

Debra Ellen Watts

Home Educated Class of 2002
Clan and tribal town: Bird and Tulsa
Parents: Wayne and Jewel Watts of Oklahoma City
Grandparents: Eldon and Opal Stone Watts of Oklahoma City; and Don and the late Lorene Guinn of Del City
Plans: to be a florist and open her own shop

Birthdays

Boy celebrates third birthday with zoo party

TULSA — Eco Tasahce Barnett celebrated his third birthday on March 30 with a Tulsa Zoo party.

Barnett

He turned age three on April 1.

Barnett is Ecovlke and belongs to Ocevpofv Etvlwv; he is the son of Hotvlkvlke and Kvncate Etvlwv.

He is the son of Roger and Stephanie Barnett of Bristow and Okmulgee, respectively.

His paternal grandparents are Rachel and the late Joseph Barnett, Bristow. He is the maternal grandson of Jo Ann Skaggs of Albuquerque, N.M. and Michael and Julia Berryhill of Henryetta. He is the great-grandson of the late Nicey Wilson, Kvncate area, and the late Thomas Berryhill, Wilson Community.

He likes swords, dinosaurs, and Scooby Doo and enjoys having books read to him and dancing.

Barnett attends Muscogee Nation Okmulgee Child Development Center.

Muskogee girl celebrates first birthday

MUSKOGEE — Lilianna Marie Rojas celebrated her first birthday on May 9 with her parents, brothers, and a host of relatives.

Rojas

A birthday party was shared with her uncle, Danny Green, at Spaulding Park.

She is the daughter of Cesar and Kayla Rojas of Muskogee.

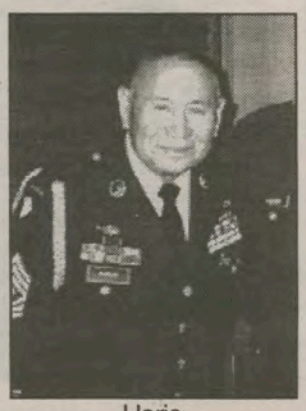
Rojas is the granddaughter of Terry and Jo Ann Harrison Proctor of Wainwright and Pablo and Esperanza Rojas of Monterrey, Mexico. She is the great-granddaughter of: Samarian Sulphur and the late Addison Harrison, Muskogee; Harold Harvey and the late Geraldean Proctor, Kenwood. She is the great-great-granddaughter of the late Alec and Fannie Hill Sulphur of Eufaula and the late David and Silby Buck Harrison of Wainwright.

Accomplishments

Tribal citizen speaks at University of Kansas

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Retired First Sergeant Austin Harjo, a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam wars and a Silver Star recipient, spoke at the University of Kansas Army ROTC Battalion Dining-In on March 8.

Harjo explained to the cadets the evolving relationship between NCO's and junior officers. As a new second lieutenant, Harjo suggested that the officer "ask, listen, and latch on" to their NCO's. This allows the new officer to gain from their NCO's knowledge in order to become better leaders, said Harjo. He suggests that first lieutenants "ask, listen, and walk with." In this new capacity, the officer is on a more equal footing with the NCO and ask questions "in the form of a conversation," said Harjo. For captains, Harjo suggests that the officer "ask, listen, and lead." Based on the knowledge imparted to them by their NCO's, the officer has the ability to take charge and guide his soldiers to victory. Cadet Robert Chamberlain said this talk was "extremely useful" because it gave the cadets "a deeper understanding of the relationships that are key to the Army's success."


Harjo

Citizens perform at Jazz and Heritage Festival

NEW ORLEANS, La. — "The Muscogee Nation Performers featuring Jonny Hawk" performed at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival for the third year.

The dancers include: Raven Warrior; Lee "Chiefy" Scott; Elizabeth Fixico; Wisey Narcomey; Tumissah Lindsay; Sheena Lindsey; Amy Hill; Sonny Hill; Charles Tiger; Saundra Scott; and Jonny Hawk.

The Muscogee Nation Performers

Special guest leaders included: Raymond Clark; Will Harjo; Kugee Supernaw; and Grayhawk Perkins.

Among featured recording artists who have performed alongside the stompdancers are: Indigenous; Black Lodge Singers; Arigon Star; Bill Miller; Tommy Wildcat; Will Harjo; Nation of Change; The Bucks from Wisconsin; Iron Mountain; Robert Mirabal; and many more performers and dancers at the Jazz Festival.

Hawk is a nationally renowned artist, poet, and singer. He has won numerous grand awards for his Trail of Tears and trademark red tail feather paintings. He is a member of Tvlse' Ceremonial Ground.

Citizen performs for Star Search 2002

MUSKOGEE — Leslie Stone received the highest rating during her performance for Star Search 2002 in April.

She performed a Patty Lovelace song — "Can't Stop Myself From Loving You."

Stone

She is considering participating in the active artist development plan, which includes recording two of her original songs in Nashville, Tenn.

Stone has been singing since she was in the second grade and would like to pursue a singing career. Her goal is to perform The National Anthem at one of the major league World Series baseball games.

She and husband, Tim, have two children —Timothy, age 17, and Cheyanne, age eight.

She is employed at Jenks Athletic Department and resides in Libery Mounds.

She is the daughter of Felix and Gloria Haynes of Okmulgee.

Her grandparents are the late Jay and Annie Haynes and the late Charlotte Johnson and Ed Henry. Stone is of Creek, Cherokee, and Choctaw descent.

Engagements

Gee-Hicks to marry in October

OKMULGEE — Debra Gee, the daughter of Estherlene Buck Gee and the late Billy Jim Gee of Okmulgee, announces her upcoming marriage to Curtis Hicks, the son of Agnes Hicks and Hanson Hicks, both of Okemah.

Hicks and Gee

Gee is a graduate of Okmulgee High School, Smith College, and Arizona State University College of Law. She is the deputy director of the Office of Tribal Justice at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington D.C.

Hicks is a graduate of Mason High School, Bacone College, and Northeastern State University, where he completed both his undergraduate and graduate education. He is the deputy director of tribal affairs for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

On Oct. 12 a traditional Navajo wedding ceremony will be conducted in Ft. Defiance, Ariz. The following weekend, on Oct. 19, a wedding ceremony will also be performed at Belvin Baptist Church in Okmulgee.

Anniversaries

Longs celebrate 55th anniversary

MUSKOGEE — Harry and Mulsey Tarpalechee Long celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on May 10.

The Longs

They have six children: Larry; Beverly; Stephen; Taylor; Gary; and Starr; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

They reside in Muskogee.

Reunions

McCombs family holds annual reunion

EUFAULA — The McCombs Family are holding their annual family reunion at Tuskegee Baptist Church on July 6, beginning at 10 a.m.

The church is located six miles west of Eufaula on state highway 9 and three-fourths of a mile south.

All friends and family are invited to this covered dish luncheon.

GENEVA FISH

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Geneva Fish were held May 1 at Sand Creek Baptist Church.

Fish was born Nov. 21, 1917 in Wetumka to Rufus and Gussie Coachman Buckley.

She was raised in the Wetumka area and attended school at Hobson and Sacred Heart Boarding School in Konawa.

She was married to Josie Fish at Holdenville. They made their home in the Wetumka area where she was a homemaker and church worker.

Fish was a longtime member of Sand Creek Baptist Church. Since the age of 35, she had actively served as women's leader. While she still served in that capacity, ill health had recently restricted her activities. She had taught over 40 years as a Sunday school teacher and had served many years as the church secretary and treasurer. She held several positions, including president of the Women's Missionary Union, and had worked many years as an association worker for the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association. In February 1995, she received an award from her church in appreciation of 54 years of service and dedication.

In her spare time she enjoyed quilting and part of her association work included making quilts to raise money for missions. She also enjoyed reading her Bible and singing Mvskoke hymns.

She was preceded in death by: her husband; an infant daughter; brothers, Kozy, Harvey, Ledon, Henry, Watie, and Louis Buckley; and two sisters, Yvonne Martin and Mary Buckley.

Survivors include: three children, Melosie Berryhill, Pauline Starr, and Curtis Smith all of Wetumka; Marie Asbury of Wichita Falls, Texas; sisters, Betty Hill of Okmulgee and Martha Allen of Gore; seven grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews; and other relatives and friends.

WALTER LEWIS

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Walter Kano Lewis were held May 22 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Gene Harjo officiating.

He was born Jan. 18, 1941 in Hanna to Jonas Lewis Kano and Alice Simmons Lewis.

He was married to Alice Harjo Lewis. They were married in 1971 at Hutchechuppa Baptist Church.

Lewis was a longtime member and deacon of Hutchechuppa Baptist Church. He retired from the City of Henryetta Water Department. He enjoyed fishing, farming, traveling, and gospel singing.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; infant daughter; two brothers, Kenneth Lewis and Eldon Lewis; one sister, Nahka Carpitcher; two wives, Mary Ann Barnett Lewis and Alice Harjo Lewis.

Survivors include: two daughters, Leah Solomon of Sapulpa and Wanona Cochran of Henryetta; two sons, Walter Lewis Jr. of Henryetta and Sunday Lewis of Sapulpa; sister, Fannie Barnett of Dewar; two brothers, Sonnie Lewis Kano of Dustin and Bunny Lewis of Hanna; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Casketbearers were: Marvin Lowe; Steve Randall; Jerry Sumka; Rusty Powell; Barton Looney; Timmy Lowe; and Johnny Micco.

Honorary casketbearers were: Rev. John Lowe; Robert Soloman; Keith Cochran; Smiley Barnett; Bobby Gallegos; and Willie Randall.

Interment was at the Lewis Family Cemetery.

HARLEY LITTLE

MUSKOGEE — Funeral services for Harley Gene Little were held April 24 at First Baptist Church with Dr. David Becker officiating.

He was born Aug. 25, 1930 to Nora Douglas and Buster Little in Bearden, Oklahoma.

Little was reared on campus at Bacone College from pre-school to junior college at Murrow Indian Children's Home. He was a member of Oklahoma's 45th Infantry Division and served as a medic during the Korean War.

He received his bachelor of science degree from Northeastern State University. He then attended Oklahoma University where he received a master's degree in education. He was an avid Oklahoma Sooners fan and he wore his OU blazer for academic excellence even when they lost .

He began his tenure with the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Jones Academy as boys' advisor in 1954. He was employed there 16 before accepting a postion as Bacone College Dean of Students for two years. He returned to the BIA and became principal at Eufaula Dormitory. He also served as the principal of Carter Seminary for three years.

He returned to the Muskogee area BIA office in 1976, then became superintendent of the Okmulgee Agency. After retirement, he worked for the Muscogee Nation and also served as a National Council Representative for several years. He was serving in that capacity at the time of his death.

He was proud of being a basketball, baseball, softball, and football official for 45 years. He also volunteered at the Shrine Tournament until poor health no longer permitted it.

Survivors include: his wife, Gerri; daughter, Jeannette Askins of Bartlesville; sons, Gene Little of Carrollton, Texas and K.J. Little of Akron, Ohio; six grandchildren; brother, D.S. Little of Sundown, Texas.; several half-brothers and half-sisters; two nephews; one niece; and many friends and former students.

Pallbearers were: Simon Mitchell; Robert Smith; Johnny Tonihka; Kenneth Tonihka; Johnny Anderson; Terry Rich; Jack King; and Eugene Escoe.

Interment was at Fort Gibson National Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to: Murrow Indian Children's Home, 2540 Murrow Circle, Muskogee, OK 74403.

MARCUS MCGIRT

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Marcus "Bear" Sampson McGirt were held April 29 at Eufaula Lighthouse Christian Center with Rev. Jack Hopkins officiating and Revs. Donald Jones and John Parrish assisting.

He was born March 3, 1980 at Tahlequah to Chester Eugene and Lillie Hadley McGirt.

Marcus was self-employed and was affiliated with the First Assembly of God Church in Eufaula.

Preceding him in death were: maternal grandmother, Rose Hadley; paternal grandfather, Chester McGirt; and uncles, Marcus McGirt and Ernest and Sampson Hadley.

Survivors include: his parents, Chester Gene and Lillie McGirt of the home; three brothers, Lewis and Cordell McGirt, both of the home, and Arnold Brown of Arizona; one sister, Gina McGirt of the home; maternal grandfather, Mark Hadley of Arizona; paternal grandmother, Betty McGirt of Eufaula; four aunts, Cecelia H. Begay and Marie Yazzie both of Arizona, Chris Estep of Eufaula, and Patricia Hudson of Oklahoma City; four uncles, David Hadley of Arizona, Benson Hadley of New Mexico, Pat McGirt of Oklahoma City, and Mike McGirt of Eufaula; two nieces, Lisa Estep of Eufaula and BettyAnn McGirt of Alabama; and a nephew, Joe McGirt of Eufaula.

Pallbearers were: Shane Long; Nathaniel Grayson; Timothy Grayson; Michael Ward; Guymon Marshall; and Joey Lewis.

Honorary pallbearers were: Lewis McGirt; Cordell McGirt; Charlie Harrison; Harold Island; and Kevin Pruitt.

Interment was at Charles Cemetery.

Springfield leader celebrates birthday

photo by Denise Jacobs

Jesse Scott, pictured right, and Junior Berryhill, left, perform during a celebration of Scott's birthday held at Heaven Highway Church in Okemah.

OKEMA RANDALL

TULSA — Funeral services for Okema B. Randall were held May 1 at Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church with Rev. Bernadine Dowdy officiating and Rev. Mitch Randall assisting

She was born Dec. 23, 1925 in Broken Arrow to Mitchell and Eloise Childers Boudinot.

Randall was a 1944 graduate of Broken Arrow High School. She attended Bacone College in Muskogee for two years. She was married to Lester L. Randall Jr. on November 23, 1949 in Fort Smith, Ark.. Randall was a life long resident of Broken Arrow. She worked for American Airlines for nine years and taught dancing in Broken Arrow for several years. She served on the Muscogee National Council for four years. She was a member of Tulsa Creek Indian Community and was a lifetime member of the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women and Broken Arrow Indian Pow Wow Club. She enjoyed playing bingo and attending powwows. She attended Haikey Chapel.

Survivors include: her husband; son, Rod Randall of Broken Arrow; daughters, Shonday Harmon of Tulsa and Michelle Wolfvoice of Broken Arrow; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

SHELBY WASHINGTON

TULSA — Shelby Cordell Harjo Washington was born Jan. 25 and died the same day.

Survivors include: his parents, Rachel Harjo and Shannon Washington; brother, Ross Harjo; and many relatives.

Religion

City association holding a food sale and singing

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association is holding a food sale and Creek hymn singing on June 7.

The sale and singing will be held at the community building located at 543 S.E. 29 St. The food sale will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the singing will follow.

For more information, contact George Bunny at (405) 947-7752.

Mvskoke/Yuce Ohfvtcv
yUdjEha gOb'a gOyU'êdanA

Cokv 1 Enliketv 2/k'asO 1, shaKa 2 | Mvskoke Etvlwv | Kvco Hvse/shpashOnAzAfa 2002

Mvskoke Etvlwv Emafacketv Rakko

Kvco Hvsse emofvn nettv 14th, 16th rvtekat. Claude Cox afvcketv ekvnv likat omarane tos. Momen, puetake letketv temvrkvn, pokko nvfketvt honvntake ton hoktvke vpaket omes, rodeo, kaf, falepal, pokko rakko momen nak etakv ocet omhoya ranetos.

Hoktvke momen hoktvkucet, Mvskoke Etvlwv prenses etemvrkvn ocakv ranetos, hvtvm hayeckvn, hompetvn, nak haka wiyetvt vpaket omes.

Etohkvlket, afvckepakes.

Oklahoma Historical Society apaletos/
gO'nushu^-CHE Oklahoma Historical Society-wAnu^ wAdE

Tokonhe hvlwe kayvpkice huerat Apekv mekko tate tos, George Thompson Sr. apvltake esti tomakvt pomonayvks./ George Thompson Sr. dak'Anshaha yUpa wAthla, ArbEka-hA PathlA^ gu^. wanu^ go^nt'A wAnu^?

hElA a @g gOnO^ gOb'a k'o^nlA yO^nfA

kOta nawe^h bEf@ dawE w@t'AlA wEjElA gOb'a g@tAlAwA ha^ne k'a@^na shpa sho^nE aga thl@PA d@thl@ dawE ahA k'ada thl@PA EshtU dawE hA ahA Claude Cox g@t'AlA hEnAhA wAk'u^. w@t'AlA wEjElA yOn^dE yUshen^ nE kadanE yUshen^ alA g@ wAwaho^nE wAk'u^ k'ala dAkE wA y@thlEnE gOdAkO; gOwAnu^ w@'@^nE dak'e^ safE gAwApa g@thl@ wAnu^ behshe^ wAwahu^s@^; BaTA dawAha, BaTA yabOcha wAdEnA wAthl@^; dak'e^ sE'@^ wAf@nE, dak'e^ HeB'a wApa wAtid@^ nE s@^ dEt@ gAwApa nE, dak'e^@ nak'@ nak'@ wAgaku^tA, wAwahu^nE, k'alA dAkE kAon^thla, w@'@^nE wAku^ k@thle^ wAnu behshe^ gO'nAs'@,k'ala yO^nku^ku^nE g@t'AlAwAha, gO'nAsha k'ala wAku^ k'ala yo^mb'a dAkEkE wAku^, k'ala k'agOthl@ nE gOyOn^wanE gAfa.

Oketv espoyepvt/wAyalA

Harley G. Little

Harley G. Little oketv espoyepvt pohvyankes. Jones mvhakv'cuko atot'ket ahren este cate mvh'he ome mvts. Wvcenv en'kerretv, enhvteces'kv mvhakv'-cuko likat vnherricat vketeckv hayet escvfol'lemvts. Nv'hvtke enponvkv kerrisekot nak mahokat yv'tekv cvkerricahanvt tvl'kepos omvts. Harley okat, yvn este Mvskokvlke enponvkv kerrvkoset ful'let omes, vkerroset ahrepekvs makemvts. Herren setenfvt' cvket, wacenv en'kerretv vliceci mvts. Harley amvnicen istinkerri mvts.

Mvskokvlke Etvlwa Punvkv Tvlemecicvlke senfvyvtkv ohkerkueckv

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Emponakv enhvteceskv hô'wAdAnA hOtO'ê

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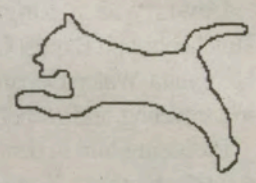

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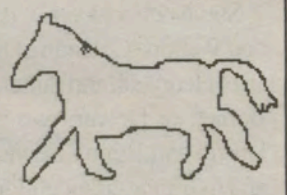

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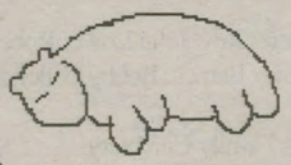

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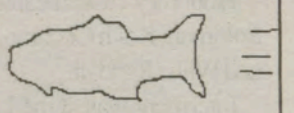

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The Muscogee Nation News

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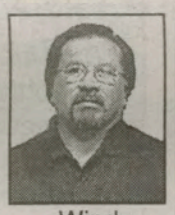
Muskogee District candidates unopposed in election

OKMULGEE — Muskogee citizens Sandra Parish and Daniel Wind have been "elected" to fill Muskogee District seats as a result of filing with no opposition.

At the close of the filing period, 5 p.m., July 17, Parish and Wind were the only Muskogee District tribal citizens that had filed for seats A and B, respectively. Because Parish and Wind were unopposed, a special election originally scheduled for Aug. 17 will not be held.

Parish



Wind

See representative profiles on page three

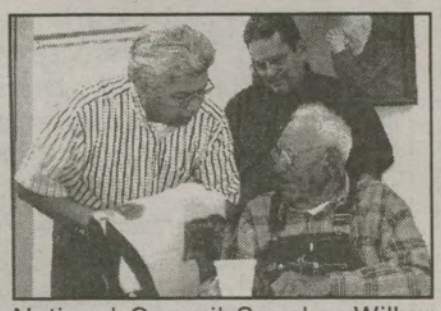
The seats had been vacated as the result of the death of Rep. Harley Little as well as the June 12th resignation of longtime Muskogee District Rep. Helen Chupco, both of Muskogee.

see **MUSKOGEE DISTRICT**..., page 3

Elder turns one hundred

TUKVPVTCE — California Fixico recently celebrated his 100th birthday with much celebration from his family and the local Indian community.

He was born June 2, 1902 to Lucy Kernal and Kano [Cano] Fixico on his mother's allotment which was located west of Paden.



National Council Speaker Wilbur Gouge presents Allottee California Fixico with a Pendleton blanket while Second Chief A.D. Ellis watches.

He attended school in the Paden area until enrolling at Nuyaka Mission. He later attended Haskell Industrial Labor Institute in Lawrence, Kan.

He met his wife, Winey Yahola, in the Holdenville

see **FIXICO**..., page 3

Hompetv haya

photo by Stephanie Barnett

Patsy Bucktrot of Glenpool prepares food at her camp during Green Corn at Ocevpofv Etvlwv.

Muscogee People

Film and video production offers Tulsa man rewarding career, opportunity to be creative

by Gerald Wofford

When a film company comes to the area of northeastern Oklahoma and is searching for a good cameraman, lighting person, or anyone that is really good at making a film or video production come to life, chances are they will call upon Rodney Autaubo.

Autaubo

Autaubo, who grew up in Okmulgee, has been in the film business for 14 years. He chose the profession because of his desire to be visually creative.

Back in 1988, Autaubo took advantage of an opportunity to study film and television production in Canada. After returning to Oklahoma, he came in contact with a church in the Tulsa area called Church On The Move. The church, which is now one of the largest in the Tulsa area, was just starting a video production department. The department's goal was to produce Christian videos geared toward youth and to spotlight the Church's mission work. The tour of duty proved valuable for Autaubo. Not only was he able to become more acquainted with highly technological sound equipment, but he was able to glean experience from other areas of the production process. Autaubo became experienced in lighting and even began to work behind the camera. Since that time, Autaubo has become the studio manager of the Willie

see **AUTAUBO**..., page 3

Letters to the editor

Mounds citizen thanks higher education

Editor:

On May 11, I received my masters of education degree from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. I ended my college career with an overall grade point average of 3.5. I plan to teach this fall within the area.

I want to thank the Muscogee Nation Higher Education program for their financial assistance while attending college.

Tonya Bigpond, Mounds

Veterans observance coordinator offers thanks

Editor:

The Committee of Osten would like to thank individuals that participated and helped during the Veterans Day observance held at the Muscogee Veterans Memorial Monument on May 27.

We want to thank the following: Lyle Deere, who was an excellent master of ceremonies; Abe McIntosh, whose splendid comments were appreciated; National Council Speaker Wilbur Gouge, for his welcoming speech and comments; Joe Harris, for his tribute to veterans; Pearl Thomas, for her moving performance of the Lord's Prayer in Indian sign language; and Rev. Alfred Berryhill, for delivering the invocation and benediction; Charlie Coker, for his immense help both in leading the singing and as delivery man and kitchen help; Phillip Coon, the leader of the wreath bearers — who also included Willie Randall, Judson and Nancy Deere, and Bill Alexander.

Our appreciation is also extended to those behind the scenes. Serving refreshments were: Rita Williams; Norma Bible; Dorothy Pinezaddleby; Ruth Traynor; and Cheryl Gouge. Tribal Facilities Supervisor Danny Roberts' staff was very efficient in delivering and returning chairs to Okmulgee Indian Community — whose officers were good enough to loan the chairs.

The Veterans Day observance would not have been a success without the help of above-named people and the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard made the first step in paying gratitude to Muscogee veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Jorene Coker, Preston

Editor's note: Jorene Coker is a member of the Committee of Osten that initiated and oversaw the erection of the Muscogee Nation Veterans Memorial Monument as well as established a database of Muscogee tribal veterans. Other members are: Charlie Coker; Phillip Coon; and the late Monroe Sulphur.

Haskell student thanks Muscogee Nation

Editor:

I am grateful to the Muscogee Nation and the staff of the tribal higher education department for their support.

I would like to extend my gratitude to my friends and former Muscogee Nation coworkers for their support also.

Julie James, Lawrence, Kansas

Elder appreciates effort put into reunion dinner

Editor:

I would like to thank all those that helped with our recent reunion and my 83rd birthday dinner.

I would like to thank my sister, Ruth Crittendon, and her husband, Joe, as well as my nieces, for cooking. I also want to thank Jean McNac for making the tasty fry bread and my son, Charles, as well as Ladonna, for bringing the cake. I appreciate the effort that everyone put into preparing food.

Thanks for all the gifts that were given to me — especially to my good friend, Judy Winningham, for the lovely gift. I want to thank all that came for the good food.

Phoebe Bucktrot Jones, Claremore

Citizen appreciates scholarship assistance

Editor:

I applied for the different scholarships that the Muscogee Nation offers while I was in my first semester of college. I graduated from college on May 11th. I just wanted to express thanks for all that the Muscogee Nation Higher Education Department has done for me. The scholarships have helped tremendously in furthering my education at East Central University.

Monica Campbell McAlister, Ada

May District Court filings

Civil actions:

- Leo Sturgeon vs. Wilbur Gouge
- Leo Sturgeon vs. Randy Johnston
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation Consumer Loans vs. Tenetke Deere
- Royal Finance vs. Henrietta Tarpalechee

Protective orders:

- Randy Gouge vs. Edna Bear Gouge, et al
- Luggie Brackett Hammer vs. Scott Hammer
- Hazel Fields and Marie Fields Washington vs. Felicia Wash-

please see **FILINGS**..., page 3

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Seems like the biggest thing to happen in June was the 28th Annual Creek Nation Festival. This year the crowd seemed larger than usual, but it soon disappeared about nine o'clock Saturday night when everyone got rain soaked. This is just normal during festival time.

Many thanks is offered to all the employees who worked at the festival. Employees were involved in all phases of planning and execution — without them it would not be possible. *Mvto.*

Also, during June, there had been many funerals. I talked to the pastor from Concharty United Methodist and he had performed five funerals in two weeks. I often wonder if the new births are keeping pace with the deaths.

National Council Speaker Wilbur Gouge, Allottee California Fixico, and Second Chief A.D. Ellis

On June 12th, I attended the annual Father's Day dinner at Holdenville Nutrition Center. As usual, **California Fixico** stole the show. Anyone who lives to be 100 years old deserves the show. Congratulations **California**.

The same week the Little, Junior, Miss, and Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation pageants were held. Congratulations, to all the pageant winners who will represent our Nation in 2002 and 2003.

What an honor for our old friend **Betsy Factor**. Betsy, your talk was very inspirational to all and we salute you on being the second Senior Ms. Muscogee Nation.

Let's not forget **Dawn Thompson** — she did as good a job as any I've ever seen as Miss Mvskoke Nation. She is always smiling and happy. You did a great job **Dawn**.

Sen. **Kelly Haney** spoke to the crowd and urged everyone to register to vote. This is something we should all do, both state wide and in the tribal elections. If you don't vote don't call in and complain about who runs Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Many times, I take complaint calls and they want to know who the chief or second chief are. If this is all you know about your tribal nation, don't bother.

Last week I got a call from my brother, Richard, to come visit him. It's just one half of a mile from my home, so I found time. He was in his shop building a coffin — a very pretty coffin made of cedar wood. He said it just fits him. He plans to line it with Indian blankets. I hope he's joking, but he said he would use it for a coffee table until he needs it. This is typical of my brother.

Quote of the month: *The measure of a man's character is not what he gets from his ancestors, but what he leaves to his descendants. Mvto.*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muskogee District representative profiles

Muskogee District Seat A
Name: Sandra Elaine Parish
Age: 39
Family: spouse, Larry; children, Wesley, Josh, Cheyanna, and Laranda
Parents: Nancy Sue and the late Wille Parnosky
Grandparents: Butler Fields; Jenny Collins; Noah Parnosky; and Alice Bruner
Church: Fife Memorial United Methodist Church
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council:
being a member of different committees — being able to make decisions and talk to people
Reason for seeking office: having a voice for the people of Muscogee County

Muskogee District Seat B
Name: Daniel Wind
Age: 50
Family: four children; six grandchildren
Parents: Daniel and Wanda Wind
Grandparents: Jesse and Lillie Wind; James and Mattie Harjo
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Muddy Waters
Church: Living Hope Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council:
currently working for the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation as the housing management coordinator, which allowed me to be involved in the creation and implementation of new programs; in September 2001, our housing management department was voted number one in Indian Country by the Oklahoma Indian Times; I have pastored a number of churches in which we have had to create, revise, and implement the Constitution bylaws; I have also served as chaplain of Muscogee Indian Community
Reason for seeking office: to work with others whose vision is to improve our communities and tribal Nation through economic development and education

Muskogee District

continued from page 1

Parish is a corporal at Eddie Warrior Correctional Center. Wind is currently the housing management coordinator for Creek Nation Housing Authority. Parish and Wind took the oath of office on July 23.

All enrolled Muscogee Nation tribal members, ages 18 and older, are eligible to become registered tribal voters. Election board staff request that information be updated regarding: changes of address; name changes; and informing the office of deaths of registered voters. For more information, call election board office staff at (918) 756-8700, extensions 294 or 349.

Autaubo

continued from page 1

George (the pastor of Church On The Move) Ministries Television Production Department. Autaubo decides who will be hired for the next production and handles all equipment rental and management. His position has even offered him the opportunity to travel to places such as Sierra Leone, Africa for the filming of missionary work which was presented to churches worldwide.

His experience has lent him a professional reputation for which he is sought to produce local television commercials as well as tape concerts. Many spots seen on Tulsa network stations were completed, in some way, with the help of Autaubo. He was instrumental in production work with the Fort Smith National Historic Site video project documentary on the Muscogee (Creek) removal from the southeast. He also helped film rap artist Lightfoot during a concert that he performed at the Creek Nation Festival in 1997.

In just the last 14 years, Autaubo has witnessed the field change vastly. "When I started, the equipment was so big and bulky to handle — like the cameras; now they are very light and so much easier to handle."

Autaubo's future plans are to write and produce Christian videos and to create a television production workshop for Native American teenagers. "I would like to see more Native Americans in this business that I am in," says Autaubo. "I would like our Indian youth to know that you can get somewhere in this world and be creative at the same time."

Autaubo is the son of Rebecca and the late Rev. George Autaubo — who was an evangelist to many Mvskoke churches.

Autaubo and his wife, Gayle, and their two children, Brandon and Anna, reside in Tulsa.

Fixico

continued from page 1

area and they married on May 28, 1942. They made their home on her grandmother's (Wysie Deere) allotment — on which old Tukvpvtce Etvlwv is located — where he still resides.

He provided for his family through farming. At a time when most boarding school-educated Mvskokvlke were raising their children with English as a first language, Fixico and his wife ensured that everyone of their children spoke that language.

"All of my kids, they talked English — all of them. They can talk Creek too."

Fixico is father to nine children: Mary Billy of Holdenville; Nora Bruner of Holdenville; Andrew Fixico, Bartlesville; Susie Harjo of Holdenville; Geneva Factor of Holdenville; Paul Fixico of Sapulpa; and Deana Hulbutta of Seminole. Two of his children, Rosie and Amos, are deceased.

He has 18 grandchildren and at least eight great-grandchildren.

He enjoys going to rodeos and watching "Wheel of Fortune." When asked what he thought of things occurring in the world today, such as the terror strikes on the World Trade Centers, he commented — "well, we didn't have nothing like that a long time ago. It's all new to me."

Editor's note: California Fixico belongs to the Beaver Clan. Both of his parents belong to Little River Tulsa Tribal Town. His maternal grandparents are Mary Kernal McCulla and Peter Kernal. Selusky Bear and Nokos Fixico are his paternal grandparents.

Filings

continued from page 2

ington
• Luggie Brackett Hammer vs. Scott Hammer
• LaCreshia Cloud vs. Dustin Cloud

Criminal — misdemeanor:
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Roland Pruitt
— count 1: uttering forged instrument

Criminal — felony
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. David Crawley
— count 1: possession of illegal drugs
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Gary Allen Thomas
— count 1: possession of illegal drugs

Traffic:
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Chris Nichols
— count 1: disorderly conduct
— count 2: possession of drugs
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Guinn Miller
— count 1: disorderly conduct
— count 2: possession of drugs
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Doyle Wilkins
— count 1: disorderly conduct

June District Court filings

Civil actions:
• Jonathan Augustine vs. Roquel A. Davis
• Sam Alexander vs. Wilbur Gouge and Robert Hufft
• Service Collection Association vs. Ellen and Willie Haney
• Credit Acceptance Corporation vs. Tonie Hill

Protective orders:
• Regina Brown vs. Richard Brown
• Brittany Crowels and Billie Stuart vs. Newman Crowels Jr.
• Michelle Robison vs. Thomas Kalinich
• Regina Brown vs. Richard Brown
• Richard Brown vs. Regina Brown

Criminal — misdemeanor:
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Russell Toppah
— count 1: public intoxication
— count 2: battery
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Newman Crowels Jr.
— count 1: physical abuse of child
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Charles Dewayne Ferguson
— count 1: physical abuse of child
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Benjamin Factor
— count 1: public intoxication

Traffic:
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Larry Gene Berryhill
— count 1: public intoxication
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Larry Gene Berryhill
— count 1: possession of marijuana
— count 2: disorderly conduct
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Anna Stevens
— count 1: illegal parking
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Anthony Sadler
— count 1: larceny

Editor's note: Reports derived from official Muscogee National Council meeting minutes are published upon availability. At press time, official minutes were not available for: April 30 special session; May 4 regular session; May 18 quarterly session; June 6 extraordinary session; and June 29 regular session.

School clothing program applications available

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care will be accepting requests for school clothing program applications from Aug. 12 through Oct. 18.

Applicants may call 1 (800) 205-3705 or (918) 758-1463 to request an application. All applications will be processed through mail; on-site applications will not be accepted.

Guidelines include:

• students must be enrolled in grades kindergarten through 12 — students in grades nine through 12 must have proof of school enrollment;

• household income must be within income guidelines;

Household size/ monthly income	
1	$1,366
2	$1,841
3	$2,316
4	$2,791
5	$3,266
6	$3,741
7	$4,215
8	$4,690

• parent/guardian/primary caregiver must provide one month's income verification (i.e. check stubs or copy of first page of 2001 tax return). If married, verification must be provided for both parties. Unmarried individuals should specify marital status on application. Unemployed individuals must submit a notarized statement indicating such;

• if applicant is acting on behalf of parent, documentation in the form of a custody order or notarized statement from the parent — giving the applicant permission to apply on behalf of the children — must be provided;

• copies of each student's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship card must be submitted.

Incomplete applications will be returned. School clothing program funds will be awarded on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Mvskoke and Euchee languages radio program to debut

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Communications Department's Mvskoke and Euchee Languages Committee announces the debut of its languages program at 6 p.m., Aug. 7 on KOKL-AM 1240 in Okmulgee.

The program will broadcast stories, articles, commentary, and brief language lessons in the Mvskoke and Euchee languages at 6 p.m. each Wednesday. It which will initially follow the format of the Mvskoke and Euchee languages section of "The Muscogee Nation News."

The program will be conducted in the Mvskoke language for the first 15 minutes and then in the Euchee language for the remaining 15 minutes. The intent of the program is to generate an interest as well as aid in the revitalization and study of these two languages.

Mvskoke and Euchee Languages Radio Program
Time: 6 p.m.
Day: Wednesdays
Station: KOKL-AM 1240, Okmulgee

The committee would like to hear from all Mvskoke and Euchee language speakers that have something to say to teach the upcoming generations.

Mvskoke and Euchee language speakers that would like to suggest as well as participate in topic discussions for upcoming broadcasts are encouraged to contact Stephanie Barnett, communications manager, at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, extension 312.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in: Eufaula; Holdenville; Okemah; and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Aug. 7 and 21;

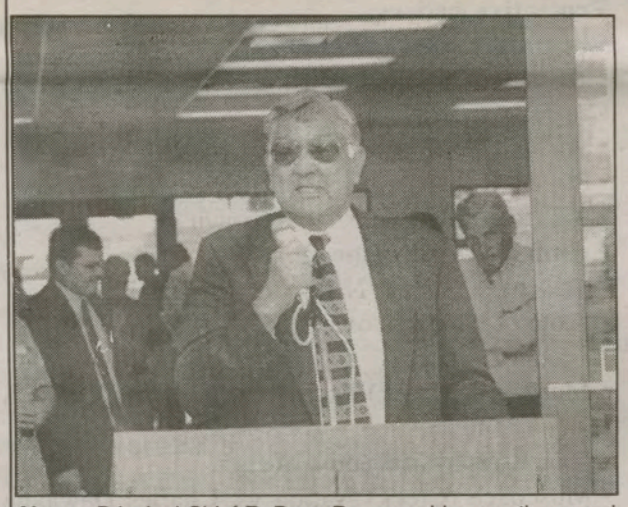
• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Aug. 1 and 15;

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Aug. 1 and 15;

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar

please see **NOTICES...**, page 21

Muscogee Travel Plaza official grand opening



Above: Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver addresses the crowd at the grand opening of Muscogee Travel Plaza.

Below: Muscogee Travel Plaza

Above: Chief Beaver

Left: Roger Foster, far left, general manager of Okmulgee and Muscogee travel plazas, introduces travel plaza management, left to right: Vivian Pope, Okmulgee site manager; Valerie Taryole, Okmulgee assistant manager; Jesse Vincent, Muscogee site manager; and Donna Coleman, Muscogee assistant manager.

Right: Executing the ceremonial ribbon cutting are, left to right: National Council Speaker Wilbur Gouge; City of Muskogee Mayor Herchel McBride; Chief Beaver; and Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Births and birthdays

Josiah Hill

Hill

TULSA — Josiah Aaron Hill was born March 31 at St. Francis Hospital to Joseph J. and Kristen Hill of Tulsa.

He weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 18 and one half inches in length.

His grandparents are Belvin and Karen Hill of Eufaula. He is the great-grandson of Medella Hill of Eufaula.

Siblings celebrate birthdays

OAKHURST — A birthday celebration was held at Indian Fellowship Baptist Church on June 15 in honor of Rev. William Alexander and his sister, Eloise Alexander Long.

Alexander was born June 12, 1912 and Long was born June 8, 1917 to Robert and Abbie Alexander of Holdenville.

Many relatives were in attendance and special recognition was given to them, as elders of the tribe, by Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver and Second Chief A.D. Ellis.

Alexander is the pastor of Indian Fellowship Baptist Church. Long is a member of Salt Creek United Methodist Church near Holdenville.

The event was hosted by: Mary Sue Alexander Peak; Mary Freeman Arkeketa; Brenda Peak Estes; and Amber Sue Estes.

Morris girl celebrates third birthday

MORRIS — Carly Amada Ballard celebrated her third birthday on June 4.

Ballard

She is the daughter of Alicia Burnside of Morris and Charlie Ballard of Tulsa.

Her maternal grandparents are Jones Burnside of Hauck, Ariz. and Alice Freeman of Morris. Her paternal grandfather is Louis Ballard of Sante Fe, N.M. She has one brother, Joshua.

She is of Muscogee, Navajo, Quapaw, Cherokee, Osage, and Delaware descent.

Muskogee girl celebrates first birthday

HILLDALE — Toby Lynn Meely celebrated her first birthday on May 1 at the home of her uncle.

Meely

She is the daughter of Arnold and Alex Michelle Meely of Muskogee.

Her maternal grandparents are Janice Bailey of Okmulgee and Edward Bailey of Holdenville. Her great-grandmother is Dorothy Pinezaddleby of Okmulgee.

Her paternal grandmother is Elizabeth Meely of Holdenville. Her great-grandparents are the late Robert and Mamie Fixico of Holdenville.

Her uncles are Raymond and Preston Meely of Summit and Hilldale, respectively.

She belongs to the Wind Clan and is the daughter of the Bear Clan and Apekv Tribal Town.

She has one sister, Andy, age five.

Wilson celebrates birthday with bowling party

OKMULGEE — Mehenwa Fotenetka Williams celebrated her second birthday on Jan. 6 with a bowling party at Beeline Bowl.

Williams

She turned two on Dec. 28.

She is the daughter of Shawn Williams and Nichol Greene, both of Wilson.

Her grandparents are Barton and Rita Williams of Wilson. Williams is the maternal granddaughter of Tilda Green of Valley Center, Calif. She is the great-granddaughter of the late Thomas Berryhill.

She belongs to the Coyote Clan and is the daughter of the Alligator Clan and Kassetv Tribal Town. She is of Muscogee and Kumeyaay descent.

Accomplishments

Girl is state finalist in American coed pageant

TULSA — Whitney Calloway has been selected as a state finalist in the Miss Oklahoma American Coed Pageant held in June.

Calloway

The pageant is held for girls ages three through 17, each competing within their own age division. The winner of each division received a cash award, a full modeling scholarship, an official crown and banner, and transportation and a trip to Florida where she will compete in a five-day event with other state winners for the national title and spend a day at Disney World.

Emphasis is placed on the importance of gaining self-confidence, building communication skills, instilling positive attitudes about competition, and setting and achieving personal goals.

Calloway's activities include student council. She also enjoys riding bikes, coloring, and talking on the phone.

She is the daughter of April and Jason Calloway of Tulsa. She is the granddaughter of Fredrick and Judith Sulphur and the great-granddaughter of the late Joseph and Ann Washington.

Tribal citizen wins State Pageant title

MUSKOGEE — Deagan Wamego has won the state pageant title of Miss Oklahoma American Sweetheart Hostess which qualifies her to represent Oklahoma in the 2002 National American Sweetheart Pageant.

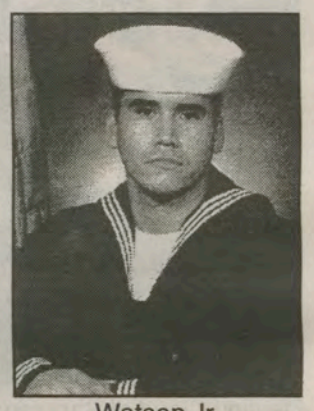
She, along with other girls from throughout the nation will be attending the 19th annual national competition to be held in at the Walt Disney World Hilton in Orlando, Fla. In addition to the national pageant contest, optional competitions will be held in each of the six age divisions. These competitions include: talent; speech; academic achievement; volunteer service; photogenic; acting; and modeling.

Wamego

She is the daughter of Anthony and Naomi Wamego of Muskogee. She is the granddaughter of Ella "Calanie" Bailey of Sun Lakes, Ariz. and Revennie Tiger of Sapulpa.

Citizen completes Recruit training

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — Cecil D. Watson Jr. completed recruit training command boot camp in April.


Watson Jr.

He was stationed in Pensacola, Fla., where he attended school as an aviation mechanic. He graduated June 10 and is currently stationed at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City.

His wife, Sharon, and daughter, Tenetke, reside in Flagstaff, Ariz. He is the son of Bob and Abbie Larney of Holdenville and Cecil Watson Sr. of Talihina. His grandparents are Hattie and the late Toby Alexander, Lamar.

He is Fuswvlke and belongs to Hickory Ground Tribal Town.

Tribal citizen passes certification test

OKMULGEE — Charley Wilson recently passed a certification test sponsored by the Board for Certification in Pedorthics.

Pedorthists design, manufacture, modify, and fit footwear, including foot orthoses, to alleviate foot problems caused by disease and injury.

Wilson is a graduate of the Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee Pedorthic Footwear Technology Program and is now studying orthotics and prosthetics. An orthotist designs and fits bracing devices, called orthosis, to provide care to patients with disabling conditions and a prosthetist designs and fits artificial limbs called prostheses for patients lacking a partial or total limb.

According to the National Health Institute, over 25 million Americans have diabetes, with 55,000 foot amputations annually caused by this disease. The same data reports that the average cost of foot amputations exceed $55,000 and additional research indicates that 70 to 80 percent of these amputations could have been prevented with proper footcare.

Indians experience a 200 percent or greater rate of diabetes than all other population groups according to Indian Health Service data.

Wilson plans to continue his education at the University of Texas after completing his associate in applied science degree at OSU-Okmulgee. He wants to operate his own

please see **SOCIETY**..., page 22

Editor's note: Muscogee 2002 graduates and regular education news will resume in the August issue of the tribal newspaper.

Creek Nation Junior Olympics

Sixteen teams participated in the 2002 junior olympics with Okfuskee receiving top honors.

Approximately 318 participants, ages six through 15, competed in nine track and field events. Team trophies were awarded to: Okfuskee, first place; Sapulpa, second place; and Okmulgee, third place.

Participating teams included: Okfuskee; Morris; Henryetta; Ada; Little Rascals; Sapulpa; Muskogee; Renegades; Dustin; Okmulgee; Weleetka; Hanna; Okfuskee; ASAP; Seminole; and Chickasaw.

The following lists final event standings.

Individual events

Boys ages six to seven — 30 meter dash
•first place: Isiah Graziane, Little Rascals
•second place: Jeremiah Winney, Weleetka
•third place: Jonathon Adams, DRHA (Dustin)

Girls ages six to seven — 30 meter dash
•first place: Savannah Grey, Okmulgee
•second place: Caitlin Harjo, Okfuskee
•third place: Tia Jim, Sapulpa

Boys ages six to seven — 50 meter dash
•first place: Kyle Bencoma, Weleetka
•second place: Jaylen Scott, Okfuskee
•third place: Bryce Peace, DRHA (Dustin)

Girls ages six to seven — 50 meter dash
•first place: Tafv Hicks, Okfuskee
•second place: Andie Smith, Little Rascals
•third place: Savannah Grey, Okmulgee

Boys ages six to seven — softball throw
•first place: Dusty Hale, Okmulgee
•second place: Ryan Mack, Okfuskee Ind.
•third place: Deion Scott, Okfuskee

Girls ages six to seven — softball throw
•first place: Summer Whins, Okfuskee
•second place: Savannah Grey, Okmulgee
•third place: Amber Harjo, Sapulpa

Boys ages eight to nine — 50 meter dash
•first place: Tyler Evans, Weleetka
•second place: Isiah Norfleet, DRHA (Dustin)
•third place: Cherokee Houze, Okfuskee

Girls ages eight to nine — 50 meter dash
•first place: Ashley Colburson, Chickasaw
•second place: Meghan Sequichie, Renegades
•third place: Candace Alexander, Morris

Boys ages eight to nine — 100 meter dash
•first place: Kaylub Smith, Weleetka
•second place: Tyler Evans, Weleetka
•third place: Isiah Norfleet, DRHA (Dustin)

Girls ages eight to nine — 100 meter dash
•first place: Ashley Colburson, Chickasaw
•second place: Daniel Bear, Okfuskee
•third place: Meghan Sequichie, Renegades

Boys ages eight to nine — 200 meter dash
•first place: Cherokee Houze, Okfuskee
•second place: Gannon Littlehead, Sapulpa
•third place: Landon Humble, Okfuskee

Girls ages eight to nine — 200 meter dash
•first place: Candace Alexander, Morris
•second place: Vanecia Moore, ASAP
•third place: Mendy Scott, Okfuskee

Boys ages eight to nine — softball throw
•first place: Deilon Scott, Okfuskee Ind.
•second place: Isiah Norfleet, DRHA (Dustin)
•third place: Dakotah Grigsby, DRHA (Dustin)

Girls ages eight to nine — softball throw
•first place: Mindy Scott, Okfuskee
•second place: Daniel Bear, Okfuskee
•third place: Ashley Colburson, Chickasaw

Boys ages 10 to 11 — 50 meter dash
•first place: Christain Huffman, DRHA (Dustin)
•second place: Mario Johnson, Sapulpa
•third place: Eric Bencoma, Weleetka

Girls ages 10 to 11 — 50 meter dash
•first place: Felecia Guzman, Henryetta
•second place: Vannessa Monroe, ASAP
•third place: Jasmyne Huffman, DRHA (Dustin)

Boys ages 10 to 11 — 100 meter dash
•first place: Christain Huffman, DRHA (Dustin)
•second place: Wolfie Phillips, DRHA (Dustin)
•third place: Grant Proctor, Hanna

Girls ages 10 to 11 — 100 meter dash
•first place: Felecia Guzman, Henryetta
•second place: Nikki Lewis, Sapulpa
•third place: Theressa Rabbit, Morris

Boys ages 10 to 11 — 200 meter dash
•first place: Mario Johnson, Sapulpa
•second place: Grant Proctor, Hanna
•third place: Christain Huffman, Okfuskee

Girls ages 10 to 11 — 200 meter dash
•first place: Felecia Guzman, Henryetta
•second place: Nikki Lewis, Sapulpa
•third place: Cheyenne Hill, Okfuskee

Boys ages 10 to 11 — hoop shoot
•first place: Grant Proctor, Hanna
•second place: Eric Bencoma, Weleetka
•third place: Mickeal Evans, Weleetka

Girls ages 10 to 11 — hoop shoot
•first place: Iesha Bear, Okfuskee
•second place: Teressa Rabbit, Morris
•third place: Amanda Harjo, Sapulpa

Boys ages 12 to 13 — 100 meter dash
•first place: Brett Littlebear, Sapulpa
•second place: Aaron Jones, Morris
•third place: Patrick Littlebear, Sapulpa

Girls ages 12 to 13 — 100 meter dash
•first place: Stephanie Rector, Okmulgee
•second place: Tiffany Marrow, Okmulgee
•third place: Kristy Hill, Okfuskee

Boys ages 12 to 13 — 200 meter dash
•first place: Brett Littlebear, Sapulpa
•second place: Patrick Littlebear, Sapulpa
•third place: Cameron Fixico, Okfuskee

Girls ages 12 to 13 — 200 meter dash
•first place: Stephanie Rector, Okmulgee
•second place: Tiffany Marrow, Okmulgee
•third place: Beth Everett, Morris

Boys ages 12 to 13 — 400 meter dash
•first place: Brett Littlebear, Sapulpa
•second place: Patrick Littlebear, Sapulpa
•third place: Skyland Tanyrin, Weleetka

Girls ages 12 to 13 — 400 meter dash
•first place: Angelina Goodrich, Sapulpa
•second place: Stephanie Rector, Okmulgee
•third place: Lisa Bell, Morris

Boys ages 12 to 13 — hoop shoot
•first place: Waco Jones, Okfuskee
•second place: As Wilson, Morris
•third place: Cameron Fixico, Okfuskee

Girls ages 12 to 13 — hoop shoot
•first place: Brandy Plum, Sapulpa
•second place: Beth Everett, Morris
•third place: Brittany Yahola, Muskogee

Boys ages 14 and 15 — 100 meter dash
•first place: Bryan Culley, Okfuskee
•second place: William Bencoma, Weleetka
•third place: Casey Locust, Sapulpa

Girls ages 14 and 15 — 100 meter dash
•first place: Desiree Booker, Okmulgee
•second place: Micheal Whitlow, Morris
•third place: Sara Fox, Sapulpa

Boys ages 14 and 15 — 200 meter dash
•first place: William Bencoma, Weleetka
•second place: Casey Locust, Sapulpa
•third place: Rodney Bencoma, Weleetka

Girls ages 14 and 15 — 200 meter dash
•first place: Desiree Booker, Okmulgee
•second place: Micheal Whitlow, Morris
•third place: Sara Fox, Sapulpa

Boys ages 14 and 15 — 400 meter dash
•first place: Casey Locust, Sapulpa
•second place: Andrew Thomas, Okmulgee
•third place: Ross Everett, Morris

Girls ages 14 and 15 — 400 meter dash
•first place: Desiree Booker, Okmulgee

Boys ages 14 and 15 — one mile run
•first place: Dallas Johnson, Morris
•second place: Jonathon Autautobo, Morris
•third place: Darren Rock, Morris

Boys ages 14 and 15 — hoop shoot
•first place: Waco Jones, Okfuskee
•second place: Rodney Bencoma, Renegades
•third place: Bryan Coley, Okfuskee

Girls ages 14 and 15 — hoop shoot
•first place: Allena Harley, Okmulgee
•second place: Tiffany Carbitcher, WIHS
•third place: Sara Fox, Sapulpa

Relay events

Boys ages six to seven — 400 meter relay
•first place: DRHA (Dustin)
•second place: Okfuskee
•third place: Okmulgee

Girls ages six to seven — 400 meter relay
•first place: Okmulgee
•second place: Okfuskee
•third place: Sapulpa

Boys ages eight to nine — 400 meter relay
•first place: Okfuskee
•second place: DHRA (Dustin)

Girls ages eight to nine — 400 meter relay
•first place: Okfuskee

Boys ages 10 to 11 — 400 meter relay
•first place: DRHA (Dustin)

Girls ages 10 to 11 — 400 meter relay
•first place: Sapulpa
•second place: Okmulgee
•third place: Okfuskee

Boys ages 12 to 13 — 400 meter relay
•first place: Sapulpa
•second place: Morris
•third place: Okmulgee

Girls ages 12 to 13 — 400 meter relay
•first place: Okfuskee
•second place: Okmulgee
•third place: Morris

Boys ages 14 and 15 — 400 meter relay
•first place: Weleetka
•second place: Morris
•third place: Sapulpa

Girls ages 14 and 15 — 400 meter relay
•first place: Sapulpa

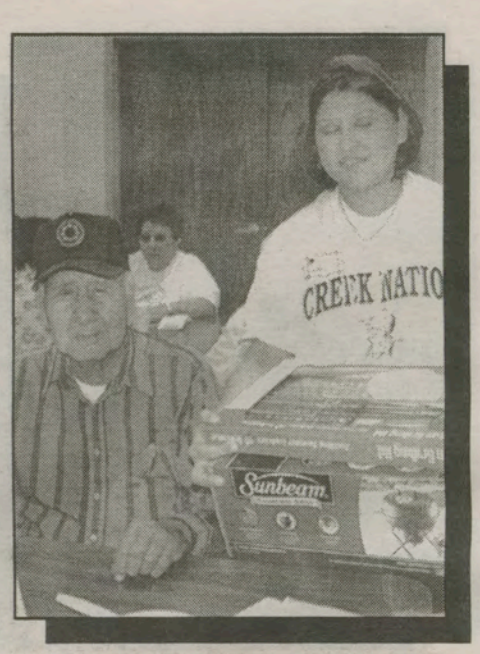
please see **FESTIVAL RESULTS**..., page 20

Senior activities

June 14th

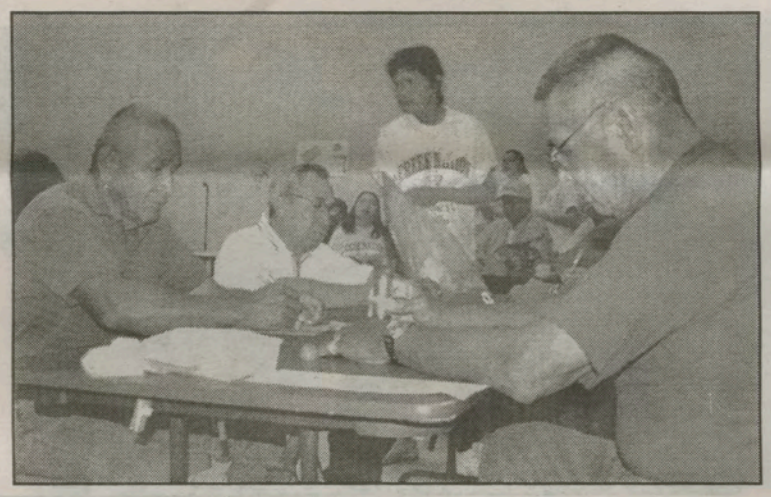
Tim Harley, of the tribe's Okemah nutrition program, calls the numbers

Bea Frye, Dewar nutrition program, presents Susanna Grayson of Okmulgee with a newly-won T-shirt — Tahlis Seber of Okmulgee is pictured far left



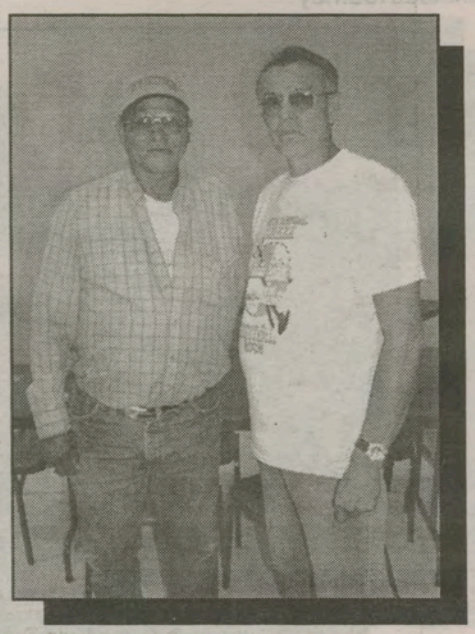
Elderly nutrition program staff member Angela Fields presents Charlie Squire of Coweta with his winnings

photos by Stephanie Barnett



Ralph Jones of Fort McDowell, Ariz., Billy Chalakee of Wilson, and Dave Hill, foreground, of Shawnee play their cards — Okmulgee nutrition program staffmember Marie Starr is pictured in the background

Horseshoe tourney winners: Andrew Clark of Holdenville; Terry Hicks of Okemah; and Johnie Hicks of Okfuskee



Clark and Hicks placed second in the domino tourney

Domino champs Tommy Chalakee of Okmulgee and Billy Chalakee of Wilson

Volleyball, 3 on 3, & softball

June 14th, 15th, & 16th

A.J. Jones of "30-Something" serves it up

Matt Dawson and Teece Chambers of "30-Something" defend against Ryan Smith of "Quikset"

Carrie Jennings of "The Dream Team" and Brittany Patterson of "Native Impact" get ready to rebound the ball

photos by Gerald Wofford

"Native Impact" members Johnny Satawake, Maria Satawake, Coach Christopher McGirt, Brittany Patterson, and Shelby Hicks show off their first place winnings in the women's division of the 3 on 3 basketball tourney

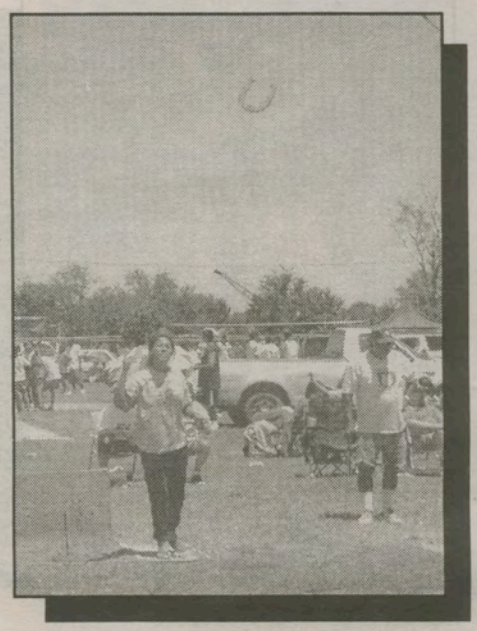
Lisa Scott and Haley Holdridge of "Weekend Warriors" warm up for their upcoming game

Lanlee Henry of "Weekend Warriors" launches a fast one

James Damebo of the "49ers" gets ready to swing as catcher Kevin Kaseco of the "Silverbacks" gets ready for a strike

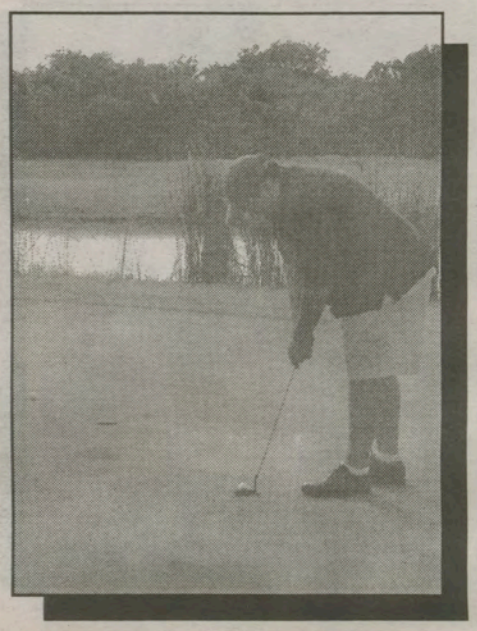
Horseshoes, golf, & 5K run

June 15th



Lee Ann Jack of Dustin — a Festival horseshoe tourney faithful

Len Yahola of Holdenville concentrates on his putt



Scott Freeman of Lawrence, Kan. goes for birdie

photos by Gerald Wofford

Sherri Duke of Tulsa winning the overall female division of the 5K run

Scott Freeman

5K overall winners in female and male divisions — Sherri Duke and Billy Grona of Sand Springs

Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver looks on as 5K run coordinator Deborah Harjochee gets the running time from young runner Zachary Beaver

Sites around Festival

June 14th, 15th, & 16th

Newakis Hicks and her terrier

Darren Delaune of Okmulgee shows his stuff

Lanna West of Shawnee

photos by
Gerald Wofford
and
Stephanie Barnett

2002-2003 Miss Mvskoke Nation Rachael Barnett of Glenpool, 2001-2002 Miss Mvskoke Nation Dawn Thompson of Duck Creek Community; and Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Division III Dala Frank of Glenpool

Midnight stompdance

Tribal royalty: front — Elisa Fields of Ada; Kyrah Roberts of Glenpool; and back — Rachel Barnett; Brenna Littlehead of Coweta; and Dala Frank

Stompdance

More sites around Festival

June 14th, 15th, & 16th

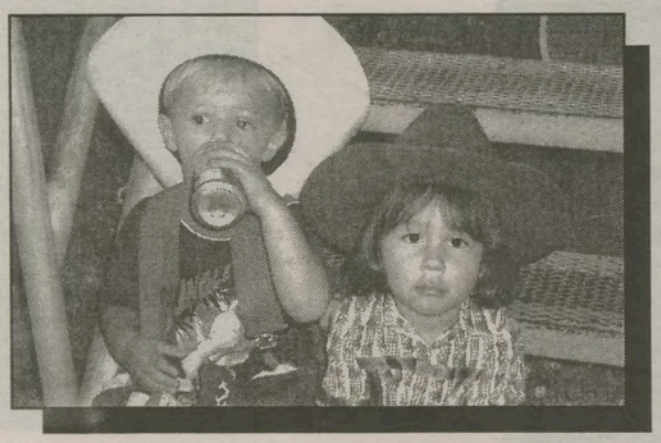
An unidentified tot tries to beat the heat

Phyllis Warrington and Paula Harjo serve it up hot

An unidentified man takes a break from Festival excitement

photos by
Stephanie Barnett
and
Gerald Wofford

Miss Mvskoke Nation Rachael Barnett poses with the Oklahoma chapter of Bikers Against Child Abuse



Young rodeo fans Kasey Wilson of Okmulgee and Jeffrey Scott Fife Jr. of Beggs

Ed and Wilma Simmers of Sapulpa

Kyle Adams and Lanna West of Shawnee

Senior Ms., M
Junior, and
Mvskoke

June 11t

The newly-crowned Miss Mvskoke Nation Rachael Barnett of Glenpool

Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver crowns Barnett

Chief Beaver and Barnett

Barnett and Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation Brenna Little Head of Coweta

Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Divisi of Okmulgee, first runner-up; Wh Pritchett of Mounds; 2002-2003 L of Glenpool; Lola Hill of Wetumka

Chief Beaver congratulates Littlehead

2002-2003 Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation Betsy Factor of Okmulgee

Factor and son, Genoa Roanho

Miss Mvskoke, Little Miss Pageants

h & 13th

Little Head covers her face in disbelief as pageant coordinator Kami Fields pins her banner

Division II Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Elisa Fields of Ada

on I contestants: Tiarra Thomas itley Taylor of Henryetta; Kayla ttle Miss Division I Kyrah Roberts ; and Kaitlyn Factor of Okemah

Division III Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Dala Frank of Glenpool

Front: Fields and Roberts; back — 2001-2002 Miss Mvskoke Nation Dawn Thompson of Duck Creek; Factor; Frank; 2001-2002 Senior Ms. Pearl Thomas of Okmulgee; and 2001-2002 Little Miss Division III Kristi Scott

se

Scott pins the banner on Roberts

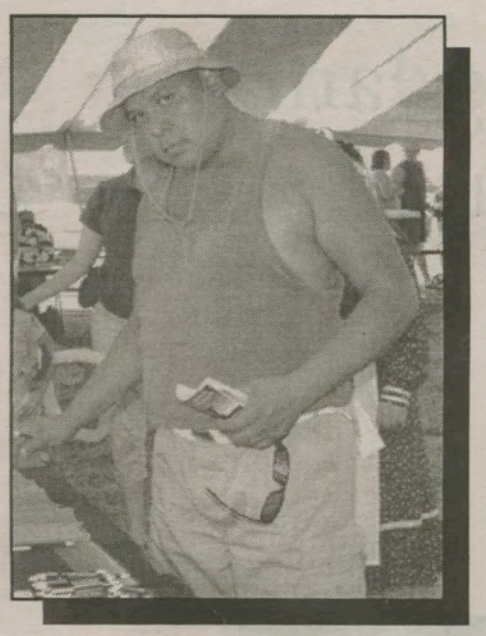
Junior Miss Cherokee Nation Julie Leach, Barnett, and Miss Cherokee Nation Amanda Carey

Health administration and program booths

June 15th

"Cup Cake the Love Clown" paints a design on Robert Pigeon of Dustin

"Danny Duh Clown" makes a balloon animal for Kaitlyn Factor of Okemah



Wally Harjo of Seminole checks out the Muscogee Nation Behavioral Health table

photos by Stephanie Barnett

Lauren Berryhill of Muskogee, Whitow Reagan of Broken Arrow, Hunter Berryhill of Muskogee, Ashton Taylor of Weleetka, and Tess Harjo of Muskogee enjoy the crafts at the Muscogee Nation 4-H program table

Brigette Thomason, Okmulgee Indian Health Center, checks Okemah citizen James Roberts' blood sugar

Ashton Taylor and Tess Harjo getting crafty at the tribal 4-H program table

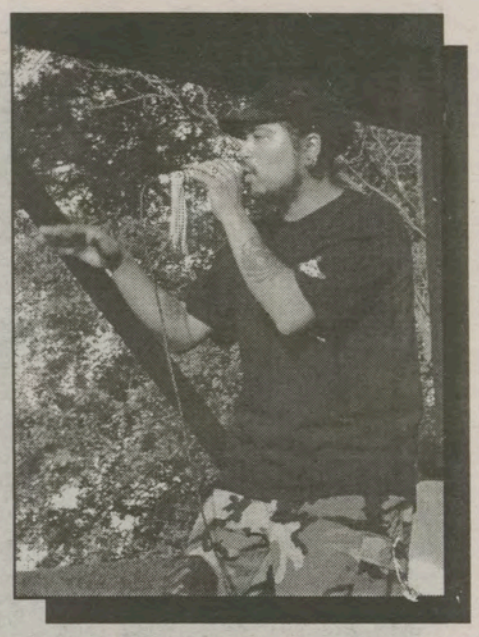
Lyle Deere of Muskogee checks out the Muscogee Nation Diabetes Program table with the assistance of program staff Rhonda Crandell and Gloria Moore

Tribal musicians and chief's address

June 15th

Muscogee showman Smilin' Vic (Vic Guiterrez)

Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver addresses tribal citizens



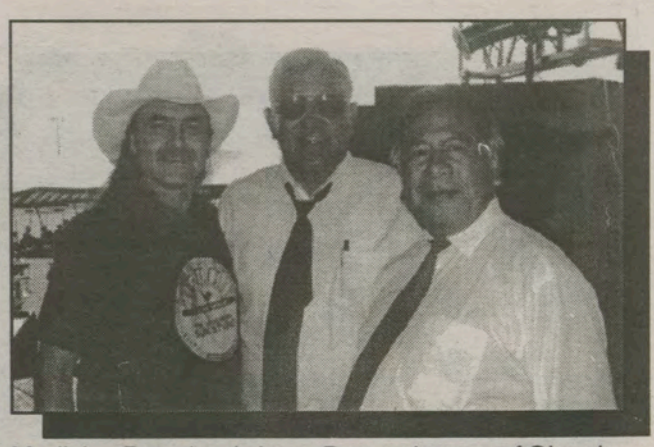
Full blood Mvskoke Hip Hop artist Julian B. (Julian Watson) of Dewar

photos by
Stephanie Barnett,
Gerald Wofford,
and
Ruth Bible

Chief Beaver introduces new tribal royalty: Elisa Fields; Brenna Littlehead; Kyrah Roberts; Dala Frank; and Rachael Barnett

Chief Beaver and Oklahoma Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney

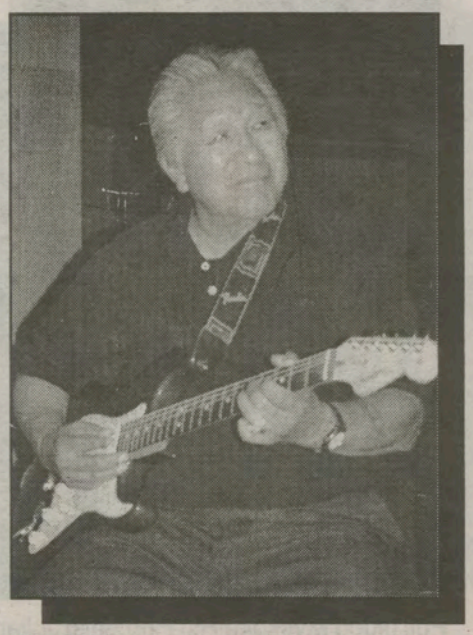
Chebon Tiger of the "Chebon Tiger Band"



Medicine Pony lead singer Barney Ingram of Okmulgee mugs with Chief Beaver and Sen. Haney backstage

Gospel Singing

June 15th



"The Tribesmen's" Virgil James of Walters

Pictured, left to right, are Jesse, Bea, and Paul Clark of "The Clark Family" of Muskogee

"The Tribesmen's" Ben Alexander of Antlers

photos by Stephanie Barnett

Leona Buck Brooks and Margaret Sigriest both of Holdenville and "Lakeside Trio" sit in with Jimmy Bruner of Antlers and other members of **"The Tribesmen"**

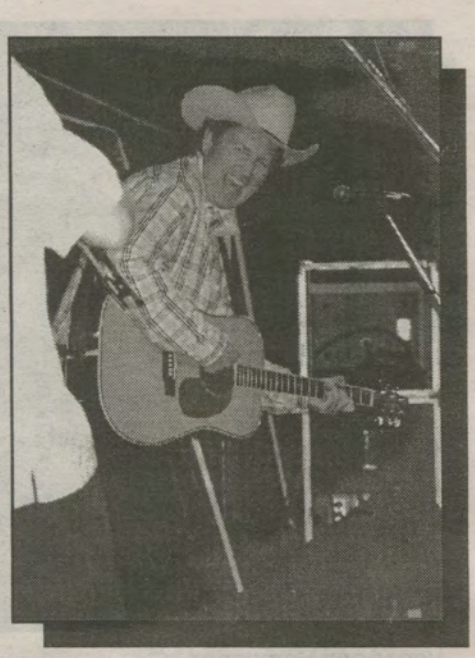
"Friends of Jesus" members Rufus and Dixie Hooper of Muskogee

Jane James of Walters

LaDonna and Harold Williams of Wewoka

David Ball Concert

June 14th

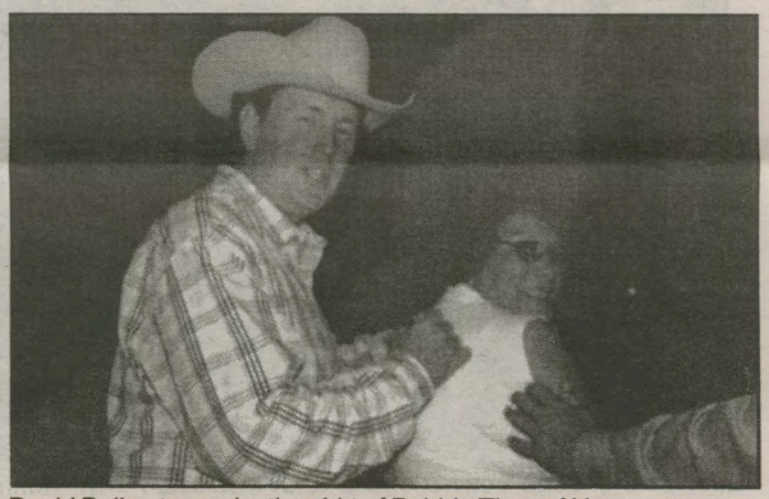


Country and western singer David Ball

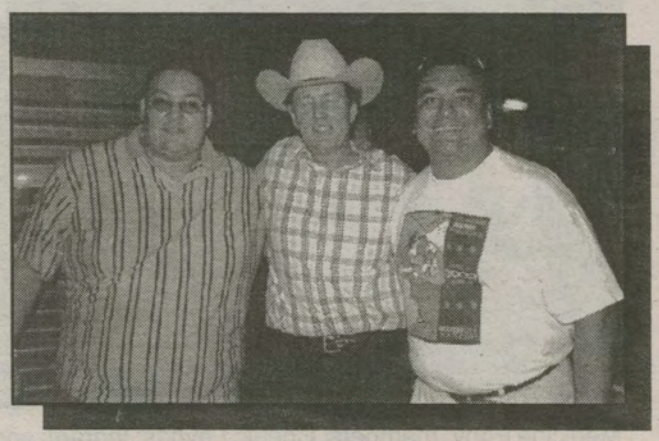
Ball and unidentified bandmember

Ball sings his current Top 40 hit "Riding with Private Malone"

photos by
Stephanie Barnett



David Ball autographs the shirt of Bobbie Tiger of Henryetta



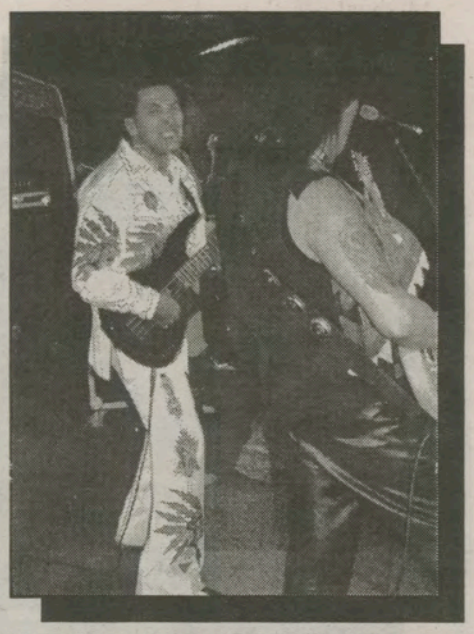
Eufaula tribal citizens Johnny Scott and Yancy Littleman with Ball

Ball sings one off of his first album "Thinkin' Problem"

Ball and Okemah tribal citizen Sherman Hicks

Red Bone, Siren, and Medicine Pony

June 15th



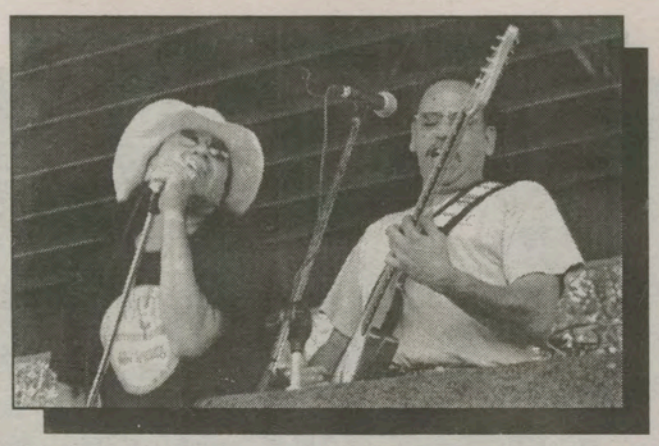
"Red Bone" lead singer Pat Vegas and guitar player Ronnie Hernandez

Hernandez and Vegas

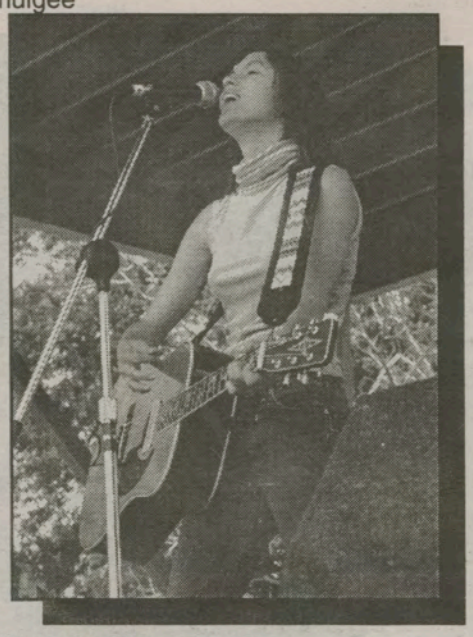
Vegas and Hernandez

photos by Stephanie Barnett and Ruth Bible

Members of "Red Bone," "Siren," and "Medicine Pony:" Kenny Cheek of Tulsa; Johnny Beltran of Henryetta; Staci Patrick of Tulsa; Vegas, Hernandez, and SteveRoybal, all of Van Nuys, Calif.; Barney Ingram of Okmulgee; Damian GreyWolf of Van Nuys; and Waddie Leybas of Okmulgee



"Medicine Pony's" Ingram and Beltran



Patrick of "Siren"

"Medicine Pony" members: Cheek; Leybas; Ingram; and Betran

28th Annual Muscogee Nation Festival

Junior Olympics

June 14th

Destiny Cloud of Sapulapa participates in the softball throw

Rayna Harjo of Okfuskee and Melissa Riley of Dustin get ready to run

Tia Jim of Sapulpa launches the softball

photos by Gerald Wofford and Junior Olympics volunteers

First place winners — Okfuskee

Second place winners — Sapulpa

Eagle Hicks, background, and Kyle Davis, foreground, take part in the relay run

Third place winners — Okmulgee

Festival results

continued from page 19

Muscogee Nation pageant winners

Little Miss Mvskoke Nation — Division I
•winner: Kyrah Roberts, Glenpool
•runner up: Tiarra Thomas, Okmulgee
Little Miss Mvskoke Nation — Division II
•winner: Elisa Fields, Ada
•runner up: Robin Hicks, Okmulgee
Little Miss Mvskoke Nation — Division III
•winner: Dala Frank, Glenpool
•runner up: Channena Henneha, Coweta
Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation
•winner: Brenna Littlehead, Coweta
•runner up: Jennifer Kelly, Morris
Miss Mvskoke Nation
•winner: Rachael Barnett, Glenpool
•runner up: JaDe McIntosh, Tulsa
Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation
•winner: Betsy Factor, Okmulgee
•runner up: Ella Bailey, Sun Lakes, Ariz.

5K run

Male open results
•first place: Billy Grona, Sand Springs
•second place: Patrick Thomas, Tulsa
•third place: Tom Lam, Tulsa
Female open results
•first place: Sherri Duke, Tulsa
•second place: Kim Vojvoda, Tulsa
•third place: Susie Harrison, Tulsa
Male age group 13 to 15
•first place: Cody Owens, Coweta
•second place: Zachary Beaver, Oklahoma City
•third place: Kendall Beaver, Oklahoma City
Female age group 13 to 15
•first place: Jessamin Bob, Sand Springs
Male age group 16 to 19
•first place: Billy Grona, Sand Springs
•second place: Bobby Lyons, Bristow
Female age group 16 to 19
•first place: Lyndsey Cozad, Des Moines, Iowa
Female age group 20 to 24
•first place: Stacy Brannon, Morris
•second place: Natalie Molet, Okmulgee
•third place: Gina Ellig, Henryetta
Male age group 25 to 29
•first place: Russell Frederick, Okmulgee
•second place: Scott Randall, Okemah
•third place: Jasper Bruner, Tulsa
Female age group 25 to 29
•first place: Sarah Foster, Tahlequah
•second place: Lynn McDowell, Okmulgee
Male age group 30 to 34
•first place: Patrick Thomas, Tulsa
•second place: Norman Bradsher, Madill
•third place: Jesse Pruett, Tulsa
Female age group 30 to 34
•first place: Thomasine Fife, Beggs
•second place: Robyn Livesay, Okmulgee
•third place: Natalie Garrett, Collinsville
Male age group 35 to 39
•first place: Roger Parman, Meeker
•second place: Detlef Galbreath, Tulsa
•third place: Robert Solomon, Sapulpa
Female age group 35 to 39
•first place: Sherri Duke, Tulsa
•second place: Susie Harrison, Tulsa
•third place: Holly Stocks, Tahlequah
Male age group 40 to 44
•first place: Tom Lam, Tulsa
•second place: Donnie Harris, Hennessey
•third place: Leon Curry, Lawton
Female age group 40 to 44
•first place: Kim Vojvoda, Tulsa
•second place: Brenda Davidson, Kellyville
•third place: Patty Powell, Tulsa
Male age group 45 to 49
•first place: Bill Hardin, Morris
•second place: Daniel Davies, Tulsa
•third place: Steve Yahola, Okemah
Female age group 45 to 49
•first place: Denny Lee, Morris
•second place: Karen Campbell, Slick
•third place: Sandy Lane, Tulsa
Male age group 50 to 54
•first place: Richard Davidson, Okmulgee
•second place: Larry Biddle, Okmulgee
•third place: Carl Peterson, Okmulgee
Female age group 50 to 54
•first place: Rebecca Cannon, Checotah
•second place: Rosanna Factor, Okmulgee
Male age group 55 to 59
•first place: Bob Chapman, Stillwater
•second place: Dan Vasicek, Tulsa
•third place: David Gill, Keota
Female age group 55 to 59
•first place: Geri Gill, Muskogee
Male age group 60 to 64
•first place: Noah Johnson, Van Buren, Arkansas
Female age group 60 to 64
•first place: Donna Barrett, Okmulgee
Male age group 70 to 99
•first place: Oakland DeMoss, Ft. Smith, Arkansas
•second place: Tom O'Connell, Tulsa
•third place: Frank Koupe, Tulsa
Female age group 70 to 99
•first place: Opal Alexander, Tulsa

Softball

Men's
•first place: Hectorville Indians
•second place: Tahlequah Starters
•third place: Ironhorse
•fourth place: Silverbacks
Women's
•first place: Chata's
•second place: Fus-ca-te
•third place: OK Tribes
•fourth place: Renegades
Men's most valuable player
•Robby Harry, Hectorville Indians
Women's most valuable player
•Mitsy Grows, Chata's
Men's all-stars
•Mark Marshall, Hectorville Indians
•Pat Johnson, Hectorville Indians
•Page White, Hectorville Indians
•Myron Bolin, Tahlequah Starters
•Troy Dye, Tahlequah Starters
•Anthony Pritchett, Tahlequah Starters
•Jeff Gibson, Ironhorse
•Spud Blanchards, Ironhorse
•Mike Tiger, Silverbacks
Women's all-stars
•Sheryl Billy, Chata's
•Chris Mitchell, Chata's
•Tonika, Chata's
•Sammy Rabbit, Fus-ca-te
•Sherena Pulsa, Fus-ca-te
•Desiree Booker, Fus-ca-te
•Lisa Longman, Oklahoma Tribes
•Ricky Walker, Oklahoma Tribes
•Tyler Tiger, Renegades

Rodeo

Calf roping
•first place: Phillip McCoy
Team roping
•first place: Earl Steele and Ada Hubble
Steer wrestling
•first place: Nabe Murdock
Bullriding
•first place: Brad Fish
Barrel racing
•first place: Tammy Lawhorn
Jr. Barrel racing
•first place: Tiffany Treat

Horseshoes

Singles
•first place: Bobby Harjo, Okemah
•second place: Gary Littledave, Stilwell
•third place: Sarah Morgan, Okemah
Doubles
•first place: Bobby Harjo and Sarah Morgan, both of Okemah
•second place: Glen Isham, Holdenville and Daniel Lewis, Eufaula

Volleyball

•first place: Feathers
•second place: Sooner Slam

3 on 3 Basketball

Male age group 8 to 11
•first place: Wolfe Pack, Stillwater
•second place: Warriors, Holdenville
•third place: Ballhogs, Okemah
Male age group 12 to 14
•first place: Redskins, Dustin
•second place: The Players, Morris
•third place: Hoop Warriors, Holdenville
Female age group 12 to 14
•first place: M5P, Dustin
Male age group 15 to 18
•first place: Tecumseh, Wilson
•second place: Summit, Oktaha
•third place: Native Suns, Wewoka
Female age group 15 to 18
•first place: The Beavers, Morris
Male age group 19 and open
•first place: Wagon Burners, Tahlequah
•second place: Warriors, Okmulgee
•third place: M5P, Dustin
Female age group 19 and open
•first place: Native Impact, Wetumka

Golf

Men's champs
•first place: Jim Patton
•second place: Rick Proctor
•third place: G.W. Beaver

please see **FESTIVAL RESULTS...**, page 22

Notices

continued from page 4

— applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Aug. 6 and 20; and

• Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Aug. 6.

Social services accepting walk-ins applicants

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Service department has been accepting walk-in energy assistance applications since June.

The following documentation is required to complete the application process: Certificate Degree of Indian Blood/tribal citizenship cards; Social Security cards; income verification for each household member; and an electric bill. Electric bills must be in the applicant or spouse's name. Additional documentation will be required for students ages 18 years or older and for individuals caring for minor children other than their own.

The social services department is also taking applications for air conditioners for elder Muscogee citizens. The program was developed to provide air conditioners to Muscogee citizens ages 60 and older as well as medically impaired individuals.

For more information, call social services at: (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, extension. 279.

Dentures available through tribal dental program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Health System is providing dentures or partials to eligible American Indians at its health centers in Eufaula, Okmulgee, and Sapulpa.

Provision of dentures or partials represents an expansion of services available to the eligible Indian population at these facilities.

For more information, Okmulgee Indian Health Center Dental Office at (918) 758-2700.

Head Start accepting enrollment applications

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Head Start is accepting applications for the 2002-2003 school year which begins on Aug. 12.

Services are for the full day for children ages three to five. Services include: social services; dental checks; parent involvement; health services; speech and hearing tests; meals and snacks; and individualized teaching services for children with special needs.

For more information, call (918) 758-1430 or visit Muscogee Nation Head Start at 1808 N. Miami in Okmulgee.

Tribal 4-H members participate in conference

STILLWATER — Muscogee Nation 4-H members Sharae Francis, Tiffany Treat, and Ethan Whitehouse were among 190 participants in state 4-H Discovery Unlimited held at Saints Grove Camp in April.

Conference activities exposed the delegates to the experiences and leadership opportunities available to 4-H teen members. The noncompetitive environment provided time for youth and adults to establish friendships. While participating in activities which develop life skills, they also learned more about opportunities for travel, goal setting, team building, and writing thank you notes. The intend of the conference was for delegates to return home with a stronger awareness of the positive alternatives 4-H provides teens.

Discovery Unlimited is a conference planned, implemented, and evaluated by a leadership team of youth chosen for their experiences as state and district 4-H officers, state 4-H ambassadors, and delegates from previous Discovery Unlimited conferences.

For more information about Muscogee Nation 4-H, call: (918) 756-8700, extension 610; or view the Oklahoma 4-H web site at http://clover.okstate.edu/fourh/.

Muskogee literature course being offered

NORMAN — A new course — Muskogee literature — is being offered at the University of Oklahoma in August.

The course will examine Muskogee writers and their works from the 1830s until contemporary times. The course number is English 2023.001, and will be offered from 3 to 4:15 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Kaufman Hall, room 319, on the OU campus.

Some of the authors and works that will be covered include: George Stiggin's history of the Red Stick war which he authored in the 1830s; Alice Callahan's novel "Wynema" — the first novel written by a Native woman; Alexander Posey's turn of the century "Fus Fixico Letters;" Louis Oliver's contemporary poetry in English and Mvskoke; and Joy Harjo's work — who is considered one of the leading poets in contemporary native literature. Lesser known Muskogee writers will also be considered as time allows.

The works will be contextualized not only by examining their various histories, but by visits from Mvskoke leaders who can talk about oral traditions, the ceremonial grounds, the churches, government, and other aspects of Mvskoke culture. It is hoped that the course will become a regular yearly offering on the OU campus.

The course will be taught by Muscogee citizen Craig Womack. He welcomes community members to sit in on the class. Individuals who would like to audit the course may e-mail Womack at womack@ou.edu for more information.

Boarding school research team seeks volunteers

STILLWATER — Faculty and students from Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma are inviting volunteers to participate in a research project on Indian boarding schools.

Participation will include being interviewed about boarding school experience and completing a psychological questionnaire. The interview will be audio recorded. Combined, the interview and questionnaire will take around one hour and 30 minutes to complete. The purpose of this research project is to describe the experience of American Indians who lived in dormitories while attending elementary or secondary school. All subject data, including audio recordings, will be locked and secured in the counseling psychology clinic in Willard Building, OSU campus, and will be destroyed when the study is published.

The group interviewers will be doctoral students in counseling psychology at OSU, OU, and/or faculty members in the counseling psychology program at OSU. An anticipated possible risk includes that participants may experience some personal distress as a result of sharing personal experiences.

The research team plans to write about the information collected from this study and publish an article in an academic journal. No individual, their tribal affiliation, or school name will be identified. Written feedback will be provided to participants at the completion of the study.

Individuals that are interested may contact: Stephen A. Colmant at (405) 547-2617; Lahoma Schultz at (918) 252-7752 or (918) 694-1881; or Rockey Robbins at (405) 325-8442 or (405) 366-7214.

Muscogee Nation/Bureau of Indian Affairs crew having busy season

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation/Bureau of Indian Affairs Wildland Firefighting Crew recently set out on their second dispatch in as many months.

On June 24, they were dispatched to Colorado, then assigned to Wyoming, followed by North Dakota. They returned home and were dispatched to Nevada on July 14. They are currently in Idaho and are expected to return home in late July.

Pictured, left to right, are: Darrel Proctor; Chris Natseway; Robbie Roberts; Charles Barnes; Roy Crandell; Samuel Frye; John Haney; Shawn Williams; Vernon Powell; Jason Soweka; and kneeling, Berry Lowe and Thomas Taylor.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Difference between citizenship and CDIB cards made

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship office is making citizens and potential citizens aware of the difference between Muscogee Nation Tribal Citizenship and Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood cards.

Tribal citizenship cards enroll applicants as a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This card will displays the holder's full name, birth date, Social Security number, enrollment date, Muscogee (Creek) blood quantum, roll number, photo, and signature (for those ages 18 or older).

The Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood Card, issued through the Muscogee Nation Citizenship Office, displays the holder's total degree of blood for those that are of: Muscogee (Creek); Seminole; Chickasaw; Cherokee; and/or Choctaw descent. The CDIB card combines total blood quantum of these five tribes — which means the individual holding this card has proven their lineage if they are more than one of the five tribes. The CDIB card does not enroll individuals as citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. A separate application must be made in order to apply for tribal citizenship.

For more information, contact the citizenship board office at (918) 756-8700, extensions 219, 224, 229; or at 1 (800) 482-1979.

Languages section patterns for pronunciation, spelling

Sounds of the Mvskoke language

Letter	Sound	Example/Pronunciation	Meaning
A "ah"	father	cate /JAH DEE/	red
C "chee"	branches	cvmpe /CHUHM BEE/	sweet
	judge	locv /LOH JUH/	turtle
E "ih"	bit	este /IHS DIH/	person
E "ee"	need	esso /EES SOH/	ash
F "fee"	four	fuswv /FOOS WUH/	bird
H "hee"	hot	hvse /HUH SIH/	sun
I "ay"	ray	hiye /HAY YEE/	hot
K "kee"	gate	kono /GOH NOH/	skunk
L "lee"	love	tvklike /DUHG LAY GIH/	bread
M "mee"	meal	mekko /MEEG GOH/	chief
N "nee"	now	nere /NIH THLEE/	night
O "oh"	boat	pokko /BOHG GOH/	ball
P "pee"	bin	hvlpvtv /HUHL BUH DUH/	alligator
R "thlee"	fourthly	rvro /THLUH THLOH/	fish
S "see"	sock	sokhv /SOHG HUH/	hog
T "tee"	dark	tempe /DIHM BIH/	near
U "oo"	food	hoktuce /HOHG DOO JIH/	little girl
V "uh"	but	vce /UH JIH/	corn
W "wee"	we	wotko /WOHD GOH/	raccoon
Y "yee"	yes	yvnvsv /YUH NUH SUH/	buffalo
AU "ah oo"	mow	ahauke /AH HOO GEE/	door
UE "oo ih"	ewe	hueretv /HOOIH THIH DUH/	to stand

Euchee (Yuchi) pronunciation and spelling

Vowels (a, e, i, o, u):

All capital vowels sound like the name of the letter: **A** as in Ate; **E** as in Eat; **I** as in Ice; and **O** as in Oat. The exception is **U** which sounds like the U in rUde — that is, it sounds like the name of the letter "U" only without the beginning "Y" sound.

Lower case vowels (or little letters) are short: **e** as in "eggs;" **u** as in "sun;" **i** as in the word "in;" **o** as in "boy;" **a** sounds like "a" in "ball;" @ sounds like the "a" in "at;" and the **v** (less common) sound is like the "u" in "put."

The rooftop accent [^] is used to show nasalized vowels. (In some cases, the rooftop may appear after the vowel it modifies because of typing limitations)

In sounding out words the sound of the vowel most often goes with the preceding consonant (as in bO shE or the word for "shirt" — go shE bE thlO nE). A space has been inserted between each syllable so that the words will be easier to pronounce. The sound of a syllable that is underlined is to be stressed or lenthened: wA wa ha lA

Consonants:

An apostrophe ['] is used to show a slight pause in the sound (when no air passes through the mouth and is cut off deep in the throat, also called a glottal stop.)

The consonants used can generally be pronounced as in English with the following important exceptions: **"thl"** does not represent a sound made in English. (It is not supposed to be pronounced like a "th" in English followed by an English "l.") Instead, the front of the tongue is placed behind the base of the top front teeth (almost as though preparing to make an "l" sound in English) and then the air is pushed out over both sides of the tongue rather than straight forward. The result is a rushing sound.

Also there are "in-between" sounds are represented by writing two consonants together (though it is pronounced as one sound). The pattern in Wagner's "Yuchi Tales," along with use of capital letters, has been utilized to represent these "in-between" sounds: **P** = in-between "b" and "p" as in PaTA (horse); **T** = in-between "d" and "t" as in TE (yellow or brown); **K** = in-between "g" and "k" as in naK@ (three); and **CH** = in-between "j" in jump and "ch" in church: CH@t'yu^ (racoon).

Remember: a capital letter consonant indicates a signal to use a special Euchee (Yuchi) language sound. These in-between sounds are important in Euchee (Yuchi), but do not have distinct symbols in the English alphabet.

Festival results

continued from page 20

Men's A flight
- Jr. Ross — 81
- Scott Freeman — 82
- Stan Duncan — 82

Women's A flight
- Phyllis Chaffin — 84
- Amanda Munds — 89
- Nita McCarter — 89

Men's B flight
- David Canard — 85
- Lee Springwater — 90
- Frank Proctor —91

Women's B flight
- Nora Birdshead — 94
- Janell Johnson — 96
- Patsy Bevenue — 107

Men's C flight
- Frank Kaskeka — 86
- Clyde Fletcher — 86
- Lonnie Wihney — 89

Senior men's
- Clifford Birdshead — 78
- Rod Red Elk — 79
- Lawrence Johnson — 88
- Ted Felix — 91

Senior Activities

Horseshoes
- first place: Andrew Clark, Holdenville
- second place: Terry Hicks, Okemah
- third place: Johnie Hicks, Okfuskee

Dominoes
- first place: Billy Chalakee, Wilson and Tommy Chalakee, Okmulgee
- second place: Andrew Clark, Holdenville and Johnie Hicks, Okfuskee

Society

continued from page 5

pedorthic practice with a primary interest in serving Indian people.

Weddings

Peak-Barnoski wed

OAKHURST — Nicole K. Peak and Phillip Lee Barnoski were joined in marriage on May 18 at the Indian Fellowship Baptist Church.

The bride's great-grandfather, Rev. William Alexander, conducted the wedding ceremony.

The Barnoskis

Barnoski is the son of Shirley Lena McBride and the late Haydon Lee Barnoski. He is the grandson of Stella Lena.

Peak is the daughter of Stan Watie Peak Jr. and Loy K. Apriesnig. Her grandparents are Stan and Mary Sue Peak.

Private First Class Barnoski is serving in the U.S. Marine Corp and is currently stationed in Pensacola, Fla. where the couple will make their home.

Anniversaries

Tigers celebrate 31st anniversary

OKMULGEE — John and Cheryl Watson Tiger of Okmulgee celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary on July 25.

They were married in Oakhurst by Rev. Fred Marshall.

The Tigers

Reunions

Bruner family

LAMAR — The annual Bruner Family Reunion will be held at 10 a.m., Aug. 31 at Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church.

Lunch will be served at 11 a.m. at Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church. Family members are requested to bring garage sale items — for the reunion fund — and covered dish. For more information, call Debbie Little at (918) 756-8072.

Mvskoke/Yuce Ohfvtcv

yUdjEha gOb'a gOyU'êdanA

Cokv 1 Enliketv 3/k'asO 1, shaKa 3 Mvskoke Etvlwv Hiyuce/w@K@k@zAfa 2002

Este Cate Enpunvka *Rideo* Stvlemickv

Mvskoke/Yuchi Punvka Enkvpetenvlke tvlemickv tat alicecvranes maket kerkecake tos. Rideo KOKL 1240 mvn okerkehocvranes tos, Hiyo-rakko, nettv kulvpakat yafkvt, momen hvse akerkv epakat, heyvt enhvteceskv omarane tontos. Ohatalakat tacak hvmke atekat, nettv ennvrkvpa yafkvt momen hvse akerkv epaken mvt emonke tomarane tos.

Cokv tvlvme hotce ocat vcakkayen, rideon, Mvskoke/Yuchi opunayakepes mahoketos. Oketv 15 menets ateken punahoyepares. Nake hvnyome momat este cate punvka acayeckvt, aketeckvt, este mvnette tis semahayet este catet emvlostet omeha komat okhoyetos. Naken punayeckvn estit yacet onomat, Stephanie Barnett mahuekepakcares — (918) 756-8700, *extension* 312.

Mvskoke Ekvn Tvcka, Etvlwv Emopunuya Coka Satka

Ohliketv tvntvkate tenrapvlke seko omecicvn ohliktvtat sofvcketos mahoketos. Momen coka satkat tat, Hiyo-rakko nettv palen-kulvpohkake mahokvnke separanekotos. Sandra Parish momen Daniel Wind ohliketvtat sofvckaket tos mahoke tosce. Ohatalakat naken kerretv ceyacaket nomat coka satka ohhecvlken mahuekepakcares — (918) 756-8700, *extension* 294/349.

Yuce hokte Julia Jones Winningham, svkvskvnv homv huerat, momen Vickie McIntosh svkerkv fvtcv huerat hvtywolen Oklahoma Arts Council Yucvlke semvnehickv hayetv respoyvketos. Semvnehickv vchoye homv svpvklat hoktvke, Julia Winningham, Vicki McIntosh, momen Adeline McIntosh tos. Honvntaket, Newman Littlebear, Bill Spencer, Simon Harry, Andrew Skeeter, momen James Brown.

YaTafa 'EB'al@^ gôshKanEfa gâ'nônga: gO sEO TanE mAjelE Julia Jones Winningham TagOwE, gOyU ûdânE Vickie McIntosh, gOsh'E gOTaTanE Adeline McIntosh. k'y@fa gôshKanEfa gâ'nônga: s'@^sÂfa gO'wAdAnA Newman Littlebear, gOsh'EyUshtlA Bill Spencer, sha 'nûnû Pathl@^ Simon Harry, yastadAk'û TaTênE Andrew Skeeter, yUsû'nû'nû Pathl@^ James Brown Jr., nak'aha gOsh'EyUshtalA 'Ok'û Julia Winningham and Vickie McIntosh. DE'Eha'Ota k'ala hôfA. KadEdab@^ Oklahoma Arts Council k'ak'ûnE dab@^.

Wanda A. Greene apaletos
Wanda A. Greene gO'nu^shu^ sEO hu^

Ohrolope cupke hvmken orices

Kilvfone Fekseko cvhocefkvtos, Paden fvtcvn, Akfvske ekvn tvckv likat, kvco hvse emofvn, ohrolope 1902 cvheckatetomes. Hvnyomat cupke hvmken oricet tomis. Echaswvlket omit, Tvlse Mucase mvt vmetvlwvat omes. Mvhakv cuko Nuyaka likvt mvn cokv hecite tomes, momen ohhvtalakat Haskell, Kansas likat cokv estenhecite tomes. Ocevpofv tempen cvnahvmkvlke akkapoket omes.

Vnpalse tate, Winey Yahola hocefket omvts. Puetake kulvpaken omis. Hoktvket cahkepen, cepanvket hokkolen. Cvpocatatet Nokos Fixico hocefket omvch, mvt cvrke ofvtcvn. Cvposet Mary hocefket omvnch, Mekil fullet. Cvcket Lucy Kernel.

Nake etemvrakepat este mvnette empunvkv kerakesekot omet ste hitken ehayet fullet ontowetos mvn akericepatomes. Vmestvlke hasosv lecv awate tis omes keriseko tos.

Fekseko

Estomat Tayetoma?

Muscogee make hotce ocat este hitke enhotcickv tomes, hassosv lecv mvn salicecet omhoyatet omes. En hake vcakeye atekosen, pohat, este hitket hocicvtete omes. Mucvnettvtat, Este cate hotcicet onomat hvn yomen (Mvskoke) /muhs goh gih/ hotcices.

Maskoke /mahs goh gih/ hotce ocat mvt vculvke etemponahoyet on omat/ mahs goh gih/ maket setemponahoyatet omes. Punvkv emofv atekosen pohake tomes, nake sahocefakvt en haket etemaraket ome tontos.

Momestomis este cate empunvkv estomis hotcekot omatet omes, Momen este Mvskoke empunvkv enyvlonkv hotce ocat menhenwuse tos estit make tayat essasekos.

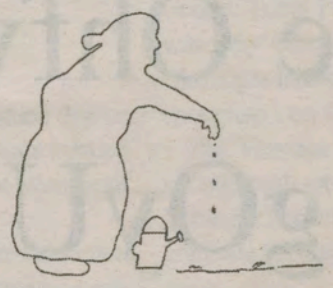
Este Cate Em'aye

Mome tomares, Pumvculvke makakate tomes, makaketokat nake este cate, Epofvnkv acacvke enwikvte sakopvnkv hayet nettv ocen hecakcares makakate mvn mucvnettvn hecvketomes.

Momen, oketv hvnyomat, este wvcenv enrvkrakv, ahakv ropotten etennakafteyat, nakaket acacaket omet, momen,

ESTE CATE EM'AYE..., sentvcke 24 hecvs

vce
zOtO

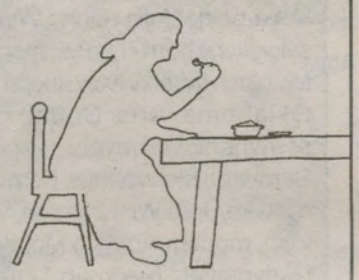


Hoktet vcen vhocetos.
W@nt'OsAnû zOtO hO

Hoktet vcen sakvcetos.
W@nt'OsAnû zOtO sEOst@

Hoktet vcen fuetos.
ZOtO sEO'E

Hoktet vcen svkmorecetos.
W@nt'AsAnû zOtO t'sya t'sya sAthla



Hoktet vcen hompetos.
W@nt'A sAnû zOtO sA thl@

w@K@k@zAfa

Ôwâ w@K@k@ hôngenE.
W@K@k@ gaKawAnû lA'A ayôngenE yôzAk'a'anE.
W@dA'@ aKA'A k'asA hôyUôndâjî.
W@dA'@ aKA'A ahôngenEjî.
YUdjEhahEnû aKA'A ahôngenEjî gaKawAnûha n@wAthlElA.

Hiyuce

Ekvna hvse oh'hayv'ye cet, nettv vcvpke hakat, nak lokcv'kat heca ket-omes. Vce hulwe huerrvkat, lokcvkoset acowetv tvkepatet hecaket omes. Nak solket lokcakat este sevnicvkepvte omes. Este cate tat ohrolope howvnepvt nak aculvke afvstakvte pumeu afvstet folet omes. Nettv kvcoknetv pok-vlv'ken, acvke tis mucvset hv-yet. Palvkna tis okhompe okhocvkate mucvset tevposecet fullepvtet omvte omes.

Vkerrickv

Pun punvka tat hvnyowat estimvt punvhoyackvs pokihoceko tayetos. Punahoyepet, mahayet, hocicet towepe estowis eskerret omvkepvke tayetos komitos. Owis pumetat tayekon punahoyet omackes tekicake tos. Momen tekice yof punvyetat pumestvlket enhvlvtake omet owaktos komitos. Owis estowis punvyepeta koweckis estonkos. Enkerrin punvtokis os vntat cekowares.

Este Cate Enfoletv

Este Cate Emvyetv Tohkvlketv, hvte-vwole ahue'retcet heyv o'ketv ensa'tkv os. Este cate vra'kvn nak here-hayetv okfucv emetetakue'cet os. Momen, aculvke enkerretv kerrohoyat mvhayit soh-fvce'ceares. Ohvtvlakat estimvt kerretv yacet nomat, yvn ponliketv likat cokv ipontute oh'fvtcecetv komeares. Este Cate Emayeta Inc. 219 *W. Portland Sapulpa, OK* 74066.

Este Cate Em'aye

sentvcke 23 mvn ates

ennekekat emonkos tonomat pumonayatsken, ahakv ropotten cemacayecetvn komeares makaken estemonyeyvnks. Momestomis, este mvnette repohoskat apohickv seko hakepen, nake acayecesekot mucvnettv sapakletomes.

Momen nettv ocen enrvkrakvt momes'komeskis allvket, naket hvnyomaket omes pohkiceckvnkat, naket stomen hvnyomen nekehecet hueretometskv pokihocvranat oketv oret tos. Aculvke yvnke svwvnwvhecose, pomvsehaketayate apeyepen fullvktos, onka, estomosis este mvnette toweyat, vsekocen vsvpvklvkesce.

Makepaks

Hvtvm yv Mvskokvlke ton Yucvlke enpunvka enkvpetenvlke okakat nake estowosetis taye maheko tos komacke nowat pukerrice pvkvcas. Cokv Tvleme Hoccicvn mvn enhocicet owepvkvcas cekicvketos. Mvskoke Etvlwv, cokv hute 580, Okmvlke, OK 74447.

Mvskokvlke Etvlwa
Punvkv Tvlemecicvlke
senfvyvtkv ohkerkueckv

Nak tis punvka ofvtcvt onkat nak etv tis hocicet, pun fulletv ofvcvtis, pumvyetvtis tvlemecikv tis ceyacvk nowat tektvnkosetos. Owis tvcak svtutecenat en Flate oremahekon hecken owat tvlvmecikvn kometvtares. Owis nak atot hoyat ohvkvsvmet tvlemecikvt tares. Cehocefkv mo osatetont hvtvm cenliketv mvhonkvtkvt estvmin tonowat onayetv tos mahoketos.

ÔndA K@thl@'@^ gOyÔ n@t@ya k'agOyUûdânE yÔnthl'Ethl'E yUdjEhalA gOP'a gOwAdAnA dasA k'dOwâsOnu KA'ê sha net@.
NedzATE'A hOthl'Ethl'E K@thl@^hA yOchE achEdA.
K'ala gagOyU'ûdânE k'ahUthl@ s'êdEklE yÔnthl'Ethl'E.
h@wAyUg@nE naK@fa h@'@g@lA wAyUÔnÔnA sha zAt'AlAwEjElA
wAyUg@nE naK@fa.

wasko
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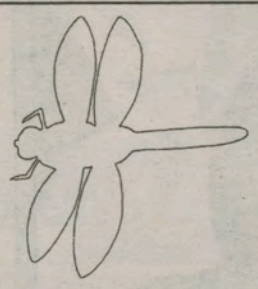

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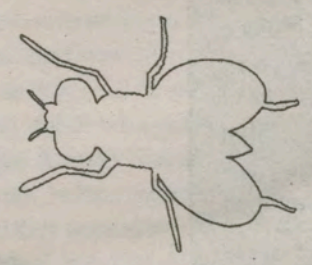

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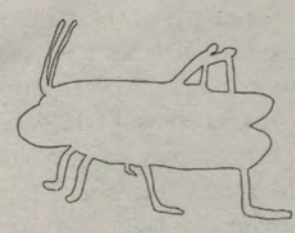

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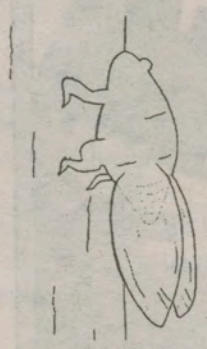

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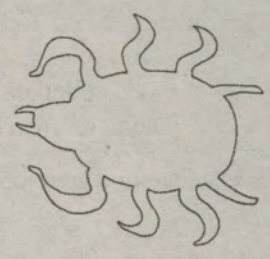

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The Muscogee Nation News

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Housing receives more than $17 million in funding

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee (Creek) Nation will receive $17,247,188 in federal assistance to promote affordable housing and assist families in need. The funds will be provided through Housing and Urban Development's Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) program for 2002.

"These grants do so much good for so many people," HUD Secretary Mel Martinez said. "This money helps Native American communities do the critical work of providing affordable housing for those who need it most."

The IHBG program allows tribes or tribally designated housing entities (TDHE) to provide a range of affordable housing activities on a reservation or Indian area.

The block grant approach to housing for Native Americans was authorized by the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA) of 1996. The tribes or TDHEs are empowered with the responsibility of determining how those funds should be used to address needs specific to their own communities.

Emanuel Morgan, planner for the tribe's NAHASDA program, said spending priorities for the tribal plan include: new construction; acquisition of homes; rehabilitation; and emergency repairs. Al-

see **HUD**..., page 3

Back to school

Four year old Brooks Booker of Okmulgee prepares to board the bus to Muscogee Nation's Okmulgee Head Start.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee People

Former representative's work ethic to be missed

by Gerald Wofford

In 1979, when the modern era of Muscogee (Creek) Nation government began, one lady was there and chose to serve her constituents in the Muskogee District for 23 consecutive years.

Through that time, she has served during the administrations of three principal chiefs and seen many tribal leaders change. She has also has a hand in policy and laws that has benefited many tribal citizens. She has witnessed modern government's earliest struggles for sovereignty and how it would defined the Muscogee Nation.

This year marked a new beginning, a change in leadership for Muskogee District. For the first time since the tribal legislature became that of one based on a representative democracy — Muskogee District Seat A would be without the representative voice of Helen Chupco.

Chupco

Chupco, because of health reasons, resigned from her position as a Council representative in June. Her resignation, as well as the death of Muskogee District Rep. Harley Little, necessitated a special election. Muskogee resident Sandra Parish filed for the seat without opposition and was sworn into office on July 23.

"Its going to be hard to fill a position that she has had for so long," said Parish. "I've known her since I was little; its going to be a real challenge."

Chupco is known for her candor and practical thinking in her approach to governmental matters, said Rep. Phyllis Warrington, Sapulpa District. "You always know where you stand with Helen. I appreciated her service on the Council, we [representatives] could talk to her and she would tell you exactly what she thought about any matters. She was also a walking history book as far informing you about historical government matters that pertained to the tribe."

Tukvpvtce District Rep. Thomas Yahola also of-

see **CHUPCO**..., page 3

Letters to the editor

Tribal citizen thanks good Samaritans

Editor:

Many thanks go to Marshall Hardin and his son for mowing the lawn of Rev. Willie and Mrs. Mary Gooden. Second Chief A.D. Ellis, Charlie [Coker] and I had looked for sources that might do this work since Muscogee Nation does not provide this type of service. We did not locate any help, however Marshall and his son did the mowing and would not take any compensation.

Again, thanks to Good Samaritans Marshall and his son for a job well done.

Jorene Coker, Preston

Okmulgee JOM expresses appreciation

Editor:

On behalf of Okmulgee Johnson O'Malley Program committee members Nakina and Johnny Leybas, Nancy Mason, Mike James, and Alicia Burnside, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for several key players assisting our program.

On Aug. 9 we distributed school supplies to eligible Johnson O'Malley students enrolled in the Okmulgee Public Schools.

Wal-Mart employees were truly instrumental in assisting us with the huge task of purchasing supplies, providing space for the supplies until payment was made, and in the delivery process. Each one that assisted us did so in such a helpful, kind, and professional manner.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Festival Committee likewise receives our sincere appreciation for their assistance and part that they played in our distribution being a success. Michael Fish assisted with securing the location — Claude Cox Omniplex — as well as providing maintenance to the area being occupied.

A special thanks also goes out to the Okmulgee Indian Community Center for providing the clear backpacks for the Okmulgee JOM students in grades pre-kindergarten through fifth. The Okmulgee JOM program provided clear backpacks with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation seal on them last year for all eligible JOM students. With the generous assistance from OIC, more monies could go toward school supplies this school term.

Final appreciation goes to two sources of communications — KOKL-AM 1240 and "Okmulgee Daily Times" for advertising our distribution dates several weeks in advance.

Tammy Lewis, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Tammy Lewis is the Muscogee Nation Johnson O' Malley Coordinator.

July District Court filings

Civil Actions:

- Tower Loans vs. Melinda Noon
- The Educational Resources Institution vs. Kendal H. Coats
- Medplan Financial Services vs. Lou Jean Fixico

Protective Orders:

- Linda Sue Naylor vs. Joseph Tommy Rogers
- Louma Jack vs. Jacob Harjo

Divorce:

- Natalie Wilson vs. Billy Wilson

Criminal-misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jay Harley
— count 1: malicious mischief
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Ronald Butler
— count 1: public intoxication
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jaime Garcia
— count 1: public intoxication
- Musc0gee (Creek) Nation vs. Ronnie Little
— count 1: public intoxication

Criminal-felony:

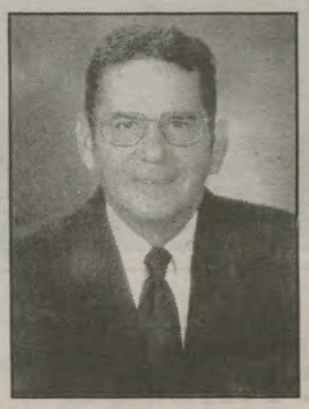
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Dondi Ray Fox
— count 1: larceny
— count 2: violation of protective order
— count 3: forgery
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Michael Baker
— count 1: aggravated battery
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jerry Self Jr.
— count 1: possession of controlled dangerous substance with intent to distribute
— count 2: possession of paraphernalia
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Tammy Dodson
— count 1: possession of controlled dangerous sub-

please see **FILINGS...**, page 3

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

July has been a very busy month for us here in the chief's office. Many things are beginning to take shape that will improve our tribal operations and benefit our citizens.



Several land purchases in and around our Nation are being considered, pending available capital and Council approval. Also a nursing home and funeral home purchase are being investigated. This doesn't mean that we'll buy, but are only considering.

The ceremonial grounds have been very active this time of year during Green Corn dances. Attending the grounds and seeing old friends are both rewarding and educational.

July 6th I attended a family reunion at Tuskegee Baptist Church in McIntosh County. **Daniel Drew** invited me and I met many people with historical ties to this Nation. The McCombs, Colbert, and Drew families provided a great service to our people.

In other news — a welcome aboard is extended to **Gloria Bezzell** who is our new senior services manager. Anything that improves our senior services is a plus to all.

Our prayers are with former Tulsa District Council member **Irene Cleghorn** for a speedy recovery from her illness and hospital confinement. **Gene Dunson** is also recovering at home, so Gene get well because we're ready for a story about how it happened.

I was very disappointed with the local NBC affiliate news station's coverage of the City of Okmulgee for a regular segment called "Your Town." I recently wrote KJRH Channel 2 General Manager **Michael Kronley** to let him know how I feel about his station's coverage of our capitol. The following includes some of the information I included in the correspondence:

In early August KJRH Channel 2 spent the entire day in Okmulgee, airing live during noon and evening broadcasts (from the Creek Council House Museum lawn I might add). The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was never mentioned. Not only are we the fourth largest Indian tribe in America, but also Okmulgee's largest employer with over 1,000 employees. We bring hundreds of millions of dollars into this area yearly. Okmulgee is the home of our tribal capitol which our tribe founded before statehood. Just this year our Nation obligated over $2 million to help Okmulgee County build public roads because they had no funds. Public schools are funded as are volunteer fire departments throughout this area also. To not acknowledge Muscogee Nation in coverage related to the City of Okmulgee is an injustice to our 53,000 plus tribal citizens.

I get very upset when the local media gives coverage to Okmulgee and Okmulgee County and does not include the Muscogee Nation. Our tribe is and will always be a driving force in this area. The Muscogee people made this area what it is many, many years ago and we don't intend to leave. *Mvto.*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at an April 30 special session and June 6 extraordinary session.

April 30 session

Absent were: **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee District; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee District; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce Distict; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; and **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved as amended (15-1-0) Tribal Resolution 02-003, approving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System compact agreement with Indian Health services;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington,** Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Tom Pickering,** McIntosh; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; and **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner;

voting no was **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner; and **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee, did not vote.

June 6 extraordinary session

Absent were: **Tom Pickering,** McIntosh; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee District; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; George **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce Distict; and **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously (16-0-0) Tribal Resolution 02-039, authorizing the food distribution program to prepare and submit an application of a community development block grant to obtain funding for the construction of a self serving food distribution store;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington,** Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee District; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner; and

• approved unanimously (16-0-0) National Council Act 02-098, a law approving the fiscal year 2002 Indian Housing Plan.

Editor's note: Reports derived from official Muscogee National Council regular, quarterly, special, and extraordinary meeting minutes are published upon availability. At press time, official minutes were not available for: *May 4 quarterly session; May 18 regular session; June 29 regular session; July 27 quarterly session; and Aug. 8 extraordinary session. *May 4 quarterly session minutes are not available because of its relevance to the pending Muscogee Nation District Court case Sam Alexander vs. Wilbur Gouge and Robert Hufft.

HUD

continued from page 1

though the funding will be available soon, it is not likely that it will alleviate any of the tribal housing authority waiting lists, said Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver.

Morgan concurred, using the construction of new homes as an example. Constructing homes at the rate in which housing is completing them is not making an impact on a waiting list numbering close to 400, he said.

Housing and Urban Development allows tribes and housing entities two years to spend 90 percent of program monies. Although entering into the last year of the five-year plan — which provides for the construction of 350 homes — the housing authority has only completed new construction for the first year of the plan, Morgan said. Monies for the 1998 and 1999 Indian Housing plans are encumbered while funding for 2000 and 2001 is in the process of being committed, Morgan said.

He explained that the process of acquiring land and sites to build the homes, as well as research involved in accessing the status "donated" land of individuals — which are often restricted allotments without clear titles — is painstakingly slow.

"The tribe will probably draw [the money] down and invest the biggest portion of it and not allow housing to spend it until they've spent 2001 monies," Morgan said.

He reasons that the benefit lies in earning interest that will financially enable housing to build 60 homes down the road as opposed to 50 homes today.

"The money is there. The main thing is getting the housing authority to build houses," Beaver said.

Housing and Urban Development is the nation's housing agency created to: increase home ownership, particularly among minorities; create affordable housing opportunities for low-income Americans; support the homeless; elderly; people with disabilities; and people living with AIDS. The department also promotes economic and community development as well as enforces the nation's fair housing laws.

More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov.

Chupco

continued from page 1

fers high praise of Chupco's years of service. "Its all been positive," he said, "she's always been a faithful servant to her faith, her family, and to the Nation. Some of her contributions have also been on the merits of retaining the (Mvskoke) language. She is very fluent in the language."

Chupco has not just been concerned about assisting her tribe in governmental issues, but issues of the heart as well. She is a staunch Methodist and has served with the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference in various capacities. Having married a Methodist preacher didn't hurt either. Chupco's husband, the late Lee Chupco, was a popular and longtime minister in the area.

Katie Scott, who has served with Chupco in church work recalls how Chupco was instrumental in helping Native Americans in the Tulsa area. "Helen helped start an Indian urban center in Tulsa in the late 70s. The center helped Indians get jobs, pay for utilities, and refer them to other organizations that could help [and] she made sure people were ministered to in spiritual matters also."

Scott says Chupco has always been determined in everything she does. The center and her many years on the Council are proof of that. It is also proof of a discipline that Scott says demonstrates Muscogee elders' beliefs about work ethic as well as how to live.

"We won't see that type of philosophy of hard work and no-nonsense for a long time, maybe not again."

Filings

continued from page 2

stance with intent to distribute
— count 2: possession of paraphernalia
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Larry Berryhill
— count 1: possession of illegal drugs
— count 2: public intoxication

Traffic:

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Patrick Powdrill
— count 1: disorderly conduct
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Samantha Nunn
— count 1: disorderly conduct
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Dustin Simmons
— count 1: driving in violation of an order of the court
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Joseph Felzke
— count 1: disorderly conduct
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Ellen Felzke
— count 1: disorderly conduct

Native American Funds Advisors presents tribe with check for scholarships

photo by Gerald Wofford

David M. Poarch, right, vice president of investments for Native American Fund Advisors, Tulsa, presents Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver with a check that will be used for tribal higher education scholarships. Native American Funds Advisors handles investments for Muscogee Nation.

School accepting application through September

EUFAULA — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Eufaula Dormitory is accepting applications for enrollment for the 2002-2003 school term through September.

Eufaula dormitory is a Bureau of Indian Affairs funded peripheral dormitory for boys and girls in first through 12th grades.

All new students are required to have: a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card; Social Security card; up-to-date immunization records; birth certificate; physical; and report cards and/or transcript from the previous school year.

Eufaula dormitory offers a structured environment with supplementary services such as tutoring, behavioral and academic counseling, and a library and computer-learning resource center.

For more information, contact the administration office at 1 (800) 896-3181 or (918) 689-2522; or write: Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory, 716 Swadley Dr., Eufaula, OK 74432.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in: Eufaula; Holdenville; Okemah; and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Sept. 18 and Oct. 2 and 16;
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Sept. 19 and Oct. 3 and 16;
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Sept. 19 and Oct. 3 and 17.
- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Sept. 17 and Oct. 1 and 15; and
- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Oct. 1.

School clothing program applications available

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care is accepting requests for school clothing program applications through Oct. 18.

Applicants may call 1 (800) 205-3705 or (918) 758-1463 to request an application. All applications will be processed through mail; on-site applications will not be accepted.

Guidelines include:

- students must be enrolled in grades kindergarten through 12 — students in grades nine through 12 must have proof of school enrollment;
- household income must be within income guidelines;
- parent/guardian/primary caregiver must provide one month's income verification (i.e. check stubs or copy of first page of 2001 tax return). If married, verification must be provided for both parties. Unmarried individuals should specify marital status on application. Unemployed individuals must submit a notarized statement indicating such;
- if applicant is acting on behalf of parent, documentation in the form of a custody order or notarized statement from the parent — giving the applicant permission to apply on behalf of the children — must be provided;
- copies of each student's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship card must be submitted.

Household size/ monthly income	
1	$1,366
2	$1,841
3	$2,316
4	$2,791
5	$3,266
6	$3,741
7	$4,215
8	$4,690

Incomplete applications will be returned. School clothing program funds will be awarded on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Council House holding Mvskoke singing for youth

OKMULGEE — A Mvskoke singing class for youth will begin on Aug. 30 at the Creek Council House Museum.

The Aug. 30 class will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. and is being held to in order for the youth to perform at Council House Indian Art Festival being held on Oct. 5.

For more information, call Ted Isham, curator, at (918) 756-2324.

Tribal gaming board seeks attorney

TULSA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Board is seeking an attorney.

Minimum requirements include five years experience in Indian gaming with extensive knowledge of national Indian gaming laws and Indian tribal law.

Candidates must consent in writing and be able to pass detailed background investigation. Native American preference is given. The closing date is Sept. 6.

Resumes may be sent to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board, P.O. Box 700833, Tulsa, OK 74170.

Camp Smokeout accepting registration

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention and Control Program's Camp Smokeout will be held Sept. 28 and 29.

Camp Smokeout is designed to teach children a healthy traditional life-style based on the Muscogee (Creek) culture. The camp, for children between the ages of 12 and 18, is accepting registration for around 30 children.

To register or for more information, contact Carla Brown at: (918) 756-4333, ext. 277.

Senior services announces new manager

OKMULGEE — New Muscogee Nation Senior Services Manager Gloria Narcomey-Bezzell was recently welcomed with reception.

Narcomey-Bezzell

"My goal for the office of senior services is to make sure every Creek senior citizen has access to the services they need either directly or through a collaboration of agencies in the community in which they live," said Narcomey-Bezzell.

Narcomey-Bezzell encourages Mvskoke elders to make her aware of their meeting dates as she would like to visit each community.

Second Chief A.D. Ellis offered and National Council Speaker Wilbur Gouge both offered welcoming addresses to Narcomey-Bezzell. National Council representatives Sandra Golden, Keeper Johnson, and Nancy Watson were in attendance also.

Mvskoke Elder Council representatives attending included: Dewar — Smiley and Fannie Barnett; Holdenville — Sue Ann Davis and Christine Wolfe; Eufaula — Sue Dalgarn and Elizabeth Coker; and Okmulgee — Esther Harley Grona, Lillian Thomas, Martha Johnson, Charlie Coker, Alice Freeman, and Evelyn Parker.

please see **NOTICES**..., page 17

Federal Bureau of Investigation commends Muscogee Nation lighthorse

The Federal Bureau of Investigation recently commended the Muscogee Nation Lighthorse Administration for their contribution to a federal investigation of a crime which was committed on tribal land. Pictured, left to right, are: Washington Cummings, Lighthorse administration chief; Wes Fitzer, FBI special agent; Jeff Fife, Lighthorse administration chief criminal investigator; Dorothy Summerfield, FBI supervisory senior resident agent; Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; and Prentice Berryhill, Lighthorse administration assistant chief.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver recently presents Bristow Muscogee citizen Jonathan Hatley with one of 16 Muscogee Nation Johnson O'Malley Scholarship awards. Hatley was also a recipient of a Five Civilized Tribes Inter-Tribal Council JOM Scholarship Award. Hatley did not attend the awards ceremony, held during the last quarterly meeting of inter-tribal council, and was presented his award in the chief's office.
Hatley was the valedictorian of his senior class and is attending Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Education

Student ranked among the top 10

GROVE — Delana Bear, a fifth grader at Grove Upper Elementary School, ranked among the top 10 out of approximately 192 fifth graders.

During the end of the year awards assembly, Bear received the following awards: President Bush's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Achievements; character counts award; citizenship award; perfect attendance award for the third year running; social studies achievement award; mathematics achievement award; and a spelling achievement award. She was one of five students receiving awards in all categories.

Bear received straight As during her fifth grade year and is currently in the sixth grade.

She is the daughter of Rachael Lowe of Grove.

Student selected to attend conference

WASHINGTON — Tiana Woodward, a junior at Shawnee High School, was selected to participate in the National Student Leadership Conference on Medicine and Health Care.

Woodward

The conference is a leadership development program for "outstanding" high school students. During the summer, approximately 1500 high school students from across the U.S. and from 45 countries around the world attended the conference. The intent of the conference was for the participants to return to their schools with increased potential and newly developed abilities that will help them make a difference in their communities.

During the conference, students attended workshops and classes where they studied the "distinctions of leadership." Guest speakers — which, in previous years, have included: U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige; former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright; former Attorney General Janet Reno; President of the World Bank James Wolfensohn; and Supreme Court Justices Anthony Kennedy, Sandra Day O'Conner, and David Souter — add a sense of reality and bring current national and international issues to life.

Through participation in the 11 day program, students developed their abilities to think, to engage in critical analysis, and to communicate.

The NSLC mission is to identify and recognize outstanding young leaders from around the world and to provide them with a unique learning environment that encourages not only academic achievement, but also diversity, cooperation, and social responsibility.

Tiana is the daughter of Randy and Verbena Woodward of Shawnee.

Her grandparents are the late Robert Deere of Holdenville and Amanda Fields of Okmulgee.

Accomplishments

Boy participating in martial arts championship

GROVE — John Perryman Jr. will represent the Mind and Body Fitness Karate School in October at the Native American Martial Arts Association World Championship.

Perryman has been taking lessons since December under the training of coach Mike Cjeka of Shawnee.

Perryman, age nine, resides in Tecumseh.

He is a fourth grade student at Cross Timbers Elementary in Tecumseh.

He is the son of John Perryman.

He is the grandson of Wesley and Darlene Perryman.

Perryman

Boy helps team make Super Series Nationals

ARLINGTON, Texas — Cameron "Hooty" Proctor of Wainwright helped his baseball team, the Muskogee Warriors, qualify to play in the Super Series Nationals held in July.

The undefeated Warriors qualified by winning the nine and under division tournament. The team placed ninth out of 28 teams in the American division. Proctor's team also won a nine and under league by finishing with a perfect season of 16-0.

Proctor has been playing baseball since age four and enjoys pitching and catching and also plays centerfield. His other hobbies include: fishing; swimming; and playing basketball.

He is the son of Terry and Jo Ann Harrison Proctor of Wainwright.

Proctor is the grandson of Samarian and the late Addison Harrison of Muskogee, the late Harvey and Geraldine Proctor of Kenwood .

He is the great-grandson of Alec and Fannie Sulphur of Eufaula; David and Silby Harrison of Wainwright; Columbus and Susie Proctor of Kenwood; and Eli and Josephine Rabbit of Kansas.

Exhibits feature Euchee and Muscogee artists

NORMAN — Yuchi and Muscogee artists Richard Ray Whitman and Buffalo Gouge are among artists featured in The Jacobson House Native Art Center's recently opened exhibit — "Typical, Atypical: The Art of Five American Indian Artists in the 21st Century."

"The exhibits features the original artwork of living artists who collectively defy any stereotype for the Indian artist." These works offer a range of Indian expression and perception of today's world typically/atypically delineated in traditional paintings and typically/atypically delineated in contemporary works. Whether oil on canvas or outdoor metal signs, the media are typical, atypical, according to a release from the center.

Whitman, Yuchi, has achieved renown in the Americas and Europe with film, paintings, installation art, and mixed media. Whitman's subject matter may not strike the viewer as "typical," but his themes are typically those which confront the American Indian in the year 2002.

Gouge brings sophistication to the traditional themes inspired by his Cherokee and Muscogee ancestry which he was taught while growing up. He graduated from the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, N.M. in spring 2002 and currently has a studio in Sante Fe. He has exhibited at The Cherokee Nation Museum in Tahlequah, The Five Civilized Tribes Museum in Muskogee, and numerous IAIA Shows.

The Jacobson House is on the National Register of Historic Places and has been designated a Centennial Site by the Oklahoma Centennial Commission to celebrate Oklahoma statehood in 2007. For more information contact John Parrish or Kendra Koassechony at (405) 366-1667 or online at www.jacobsonhouse.com. The Jacobson House is located at 609 Chautauqua Ave..

Students complete Mvskoke language class

OKLAHOMA CITY — Mvskoke language classes are scheduled to begin on at 7 p.m., Sept. 9 at Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association Center located at 543 S.E. 29th.

Mvskoke speaker George Bunny will be teaching the class. Bunny concluded a 10 week summer session of Mvskoke language classes with a graduation ceremony held June 10. The guest speaker was Muscogee citizen Blue Clark, a professor at Oklahoma City University.

In addition to taking classes, students attended a field trip to the Muscogee Nation capitol for tours of the Creek Council House Museum and the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex. Students taking the class were: Tim Autabo; John and Grace Smith; Fedora Stewart; and Jo Ann Dellman.

For more information, call Bunny at (405) 947-7752.

School reunions/alumni news

Euchee Mission

PRESTON — Euchee Mission School Alumni are planning a reunion to be held on Oct. 25 and 26 at the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Northeast District Center.

Scheduled activities include a golf tourney on Oct. 25 and a picnic lunch on Oct. 26. Gospel singing groups and Native American artists have been invited to perform and show their artwork. Galela Walkingstick will be the honorary guest. She served as a social worker for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and made it possible for many Mvskoke and Seminole children to obtain their education by attending boarding schools.

The reunion planners are researching names of former Euchee Mission students who lost their lives during military combat. The final list of names will be given an honored place in Euchee Mission's historical collection which is housed at Sapulpa Historical Society.

The OIMC Northeast District Center is located eight miles north of Okmulgee on U.S. Highway 75 and one mile east.

For more reunion information contact Birdcreek Phillips by writing: HC 62, Box 2250, Stidham, OK 74461; or calling (918) 689-3471. For more golf tournament information call Jess Freeman Jr. at (405) 799-7305 or John Freeman at (918) 744-8630.

Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY — Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma is holding its annual reunion for alumni and friends at the Westin Downtown Hotel on Oct. 25 through 27.

A reception and Halloween party will be held Oct. 25 with prizes being awarded for costumes. On Oct. 26 a golf scramble will begin at 9 a.m. The reunion dinner will begin at 6 p.m — dinner reservations are required — with a dance following at 8:30 p.m. Music will be by Bill Tsoodle (BB Brothers).

To receive room reservations at the Haskell reunion rate, call the Westin Downtown Hotel at 1 (800) 825-2780 by Sept. 24.

For general information, contact Flo Tanner Spotted Bear at (918) 342-6403 or e-mail flosbear@yahoo.com.

please see **SOCIETY**..., page 18

Honorable citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation:

This past year the Constitution Amendment Committee was created by the Nation Council of the Muscogee Nation. This Committee consists of a representative and a citizen from each of the eight districts, Second Chief, and District Judge. The Committee was formed to address some of the issues in our Constitution.

During this process many issues came to light as to the creation and the limited freedom we had at that time to create our Constitution. It is the intent of this Committee to strive with the help of our citizens, to create a document or to amend the existing document that will serve all of our people equally and preserve our culture and heritage.

We are actively seeking your thoughts and suggestions in this endeavor. Your comments may sent to: nat6@ocevnet.org or you may contact a committee member from the list included in the back of this section.

Respectfully,

Richard Berryhill, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution Amendment Committee chair

Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Under the guidance of the Almighty God, our Creator, We the People of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, to promote Unity, to establish Justice, and secure to ourselves and our children the blessings of Freedom, to preserve our basic Rights and Heritage, to strengthen and preserve self and local Government, in continued relations with the United States of America, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

ARTICLE I

Section 1. The name of this Tribe of Muscogee (Creek) people shall be "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation", and is hereby organized under Section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (48 Stat. 1967).

Section 2. The political jurisdiction of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be as it geographically appeared in 1900 which is based upon those Treaties entered into by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the United States of America; and such jurisdiction shall include, however not limited to, properties held in trust by the United States of America and to such other properties as held by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, such property, real and personal to be TAX-EXEMPT from Federal and State taxation, when not inconsistent with Federal law.

Section 3. The official seal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be the Seal as is illustrated:

ARTICLE II

Section 1. Each Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood shall have the opportunity for citizenship in The Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Section 2. This Constitution shall not abridge the rights and privileges of individual citizens of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation enjoyed as citizens of the State of Oklahoma and of the United States of America.

Section 3. This Constitution shall not abridge the rights and privileges of persons of Muscogee (Creek) blood for purposes of claims against the United States of America.

Section 4. This Constitution shall not affect the rights and privileges of individual citizens of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation in their trust relationship with the United States of America as members of a federally recognized tribe.

Section 5. This Constitution shall not in any way abolish the rights and privileges of persons of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to organize tribal towns or recognize its Muscogee (Creek) traditions.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. The Principal Chief shall appoint, subject to majority approval of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, a Citizenship Board comprised of five (5) citizens who shall be charged with the responsibility of the establishment and maintenance of a Citizenship Roll, showing degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood based upon the final rolls prepared pursuant to the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137), and other evidence, as prescribed by ordinance.

To my fellow citizens:

In our studies so far, the Constitution Amendment Committee has found some major problems which all of our citizens should be aware of. Although I do not speak for the entire committee, they have asked me to present a summary of some of the more important problems with the 1979 Constitution.

Under Article I, Section 1, there is some disagreement about the inclusion here of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act. There is no doubt that the Act helped us to limit citizenship to persons who are Muscogee by blood, to reestablish our tribal courts and laws [read Muscogee Nation v. Hodel for more detail] and to delete the Curtis Act and 1906 Act limits on our tribal officers. I personally believe that the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act could be included at the end of the Constitution, at least until we are certain that we have used it to eliminate all federal obstructions to our self-government. Some members believe we should organize under our inherent tribal sovereignty, but I would also like to include a reference to Section 10 of our Treaty of 1866, which places limits on the federal government that only apply to our Nation.

Article I, Section 2 defines the political jurisdiction of the Nation, but it is not defined clearly or to our maximum benefit. It does not discuss off-reservation rights such as hunting, fishing, and gathering wild plants which we hold by treaty, and it does not reflect the new federal policy of recognizing tribal rights to protect cultural properties (especially burials and the items placed with them in mourning) in the areas our ancestors lived in for thousands of years. This section could also be used to protect our intellectual property rights in archeological objects, or to protect civil relations between enrolled citizens who live outside our Treaty boundaries.

Article II acts as our Bill of Rights, but it never defines the political and civil rights of the people — instead it refers to rights promised by other governments. If we want to guarantee the political and civil rights of our people, we should do it clearly and in precise words.

Article III presented us with two problems. First, our tribal enrollment should not be based upon a federal law. What if Congress amends that law? We have tribal town rolls from 1890 and 1895 which can be used as a base roll. Second, Section 4 sets up two classes of citizenship (full citizens are one fourth degree or more Muscogee and are eligible to run for National Council, Second Chief or Principal Chief). We don't know any other democratic government, or any other tribal government, which has two classes of citizens. The Muscogee voters are capable of selecting their best qualified fellow citizens for tribal offices. The use of any blood quantum at all is not based in our culture or history, but comes from Bureau of Indian Affairs rules for providing services (and those rules have since changed to include all enrolled citizens). Most other tribal governments do not use a blood quantum at all.

Under Article IV, some committee members have a problem with Section 7, which guarantees that citizens who live outside the tribal boundaries have a right to vote on all national offices, which right now are the Second Chief and Principal Chief. There are only six tribal governments in the USA which have unrestricted non-resident voting (all of them in Eastern Oklahoma, all but one as a result of adopting past BIA policies). Most tribes which permit non-resident votes require that the non-residents come to the tribal homeland to vote.

Under Article VI, several National Council Representatives are recommending that terms on the National Council be changed from two years to four or six years, and that elections be staggered to elect one-half every four years, and then elect the other one-half two years later (or, to elect one-

see **SUMMARY**..., page 10

Section 2. Persons eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall consist of Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall consist of Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose names appear on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 173), and persons who are lineal descendants of those Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose names appear on the final rolls as provided by the act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137); (except that an enrolled member of another Indian tribe, nation, band, or pueblo shall not be eligible for citizenship in The Muscogee (Creek) Nation.)

Section 3. (a) All persons eligible for citizenship shall register as an applicant for citizenship; and

(b) The Citizenship Board shall certify citizenship, and the declaration of citizenship may be affirmed at any time with the name of the individual being entered on the citizenship roll, and the persons being recognized as a citizen of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, provided that:

(1) the person is a Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose name appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137), or the person is a lineal descendant of a Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose name appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137); and is not an enrolled member of another tribe, nation, or pueblo; and

(2) has made application to the Citizenship Board to become a citizen of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

(c). Except those persons who are Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose name appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137), shall be automatically included as citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Section 4. Full citizenship in The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be those persons and their lineal descendants whose blood quantum is one-quarter (1/4) or more Muscogee (Creek) Indian, hereinafter referred to as those of full citizenship. All Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood who are less than one-quarter (1/4) Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood shall be considered citizens and shall have all rights and entitlement as members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation except the right to hold office.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1. The Principal Chief shall appoint, subject to majority approval of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, and Election Board comprised of five (5) citizens who shall be charged with the responsibility of conducting, as prescribed by ordinance, all regular and special elections of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Section 2. Every citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, regardless of religion, creed, or sex, shall be eligible to vote in the tribal elections provided that (a) they are registered voters for elections; (b) they re at least eighteen (18) years of age at the date of election, with the registrant providing sufficient proof of age to the Election Board; and (c) they hold citizenship.

Section 3. All elections shall be by secret ballot.

Section 4. No candidate for office shall be considered elected:

(a) Unless the candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, or

(b) When a candidate is unopposed for office he/she shall be automatically declared the winner.

Section 5. If there is any office in which a candidate does not received the required majority of the votes, a run-off election shall be held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes in that particular election.

Section 6. Election dates for offices of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be no more than four (4) years apart.

Section 7. All citizens shall be allowed to vote for the Principal Chief and any such national

Summary

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third every six years, electing another third two years later and the last one-third two years after that). They point out that continuity is important in government, that it can take four to six years to see a project through to completion, and they also point to the recent Osage election where no members of that Council were re-elected. Also, some committee members have a problem with the current limit of 26 Representatives, first because a small Council can be unfairly influenced by outsiders, and second because the current structure can become unrepresentative if populations shift in the districts over time.

Also regarding Article VI, now that we know the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act entitles us to reorganize our government and overcome the Curtis Act (1898) requirement that tribal "laws" be approved by the President of the United States, it has been recommended that we delete all references to tribal "ordinances" and instead refer to tribal "laws."

Furthermore, Article VI does not give the Muscogee voters the chance to petition for elections to adopt new laws by initiative petition, or to petition for elections to amend or repeal existing laws by referendum petition. These are basic civil rights which protect the citizens from their own government, and should be extended to our tribal members.

Under Article VII, the problem of vacancies on the Supreme Court is not discussed and could become a problem in the future when terms expire and the chief and Council cannot agree on a new member.

Article VIII sets procedures for removal from office, but the causes for removal are not defined, the requirement of 20 percent (one-fifth) of the registered voters to sign a petition seems unreasonable, and the requirement of a three-fourths vote of the Council to remove a chief or Supreme Court member also seems designed to protect a person who holds office instead of the rights of the people to remove them.

Article IX sets procedures for constitutional amendments, but many committee members feel that a constitutional convention should be required, perhaps every 20 years, to review our system of government and make recommendations to the voters.

Article X only applied to the 1979 elections, and can now be repealed. Finally, the committee has discussed the fact that, in reality, we are a confederacy of tribes, not a single tribe. While the voters in 1979 set up a system of representation based on districts, many people still feel that the House of Kings is the essential symbol of our ancient confederacy, and should be continued as an institution for that reason alone. Since each of us belongs to a tribal town by our birth, continuing the House of Kings as a place for discussion and debate on important issues could benefit each one of us. Some people favor giving it some formal role in our tribal government, such as confirming nominees for tribal positions, helping the Supreme Court to define our common law, or to help supervise culturally sensitive programs such as libraries, language and cultural education, comprehensive planning and policy research. Now that you know about some of our discussions, we invite you to attend our regular meetings to speak your mind on these or other questions you may have, or to write to us with your ideas. The 1979 Constitution has served its purpose: it gave us a written governing document to begin rebuilding our Nation, but in many ways it reflects more federal policy toward us than it reflects our own culture and history. It can be kept, or changed, or replaced. We need to hear from you.

Mvto,

Robert W. Trepp, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution Amendment Committee citizen member

office that shall be created.

Section 8. Only those citizens having legal residence in a district shall be allowed to vote in an election for that district.

Section 9. All citizens having legal residences outside the herein defined jurisdiction of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall declare a home district within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation which shall be recognized as his legal residence for purposes of voting in tribal elections.

ARTICLE V

Section 1. (a) The Executive power shall be vested in and shall be known as the Office of the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Principal Chief shall hold office during a term of four (4) years upon election by majority of the votes cast. The term of office shall begin the first Monday in the new calendr year (January). No person shall serve office of Chief more than two (2) consecutive terms for which he/she is elected.

(b) No person, except a citizen holding full citizenship, having attained the age of thirty (30) and having been a legal resident within the political jurisdiction of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation for one (1) year immediately prior to filing for office, shall be eligible for Offices of Principal Chief or Second Chief.

(c) In the case of vacancy, whether by removal, death, or resignation of the Office of Principal Chief, the line of succession shall be the Second Chief who shall be elected in the same manner as prescribed for the Principal Chief. In the event of a vacancy of the Office of Second Chief, that an election be held within 60 days to fill the office of the Second Chief unless it happens within the last six months of the term in which case the term would remain vacant until the next election.

(d) The Principal Chief and the Second Chief shall, at stated times, receive for their services a fixed compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period of which they shall have been elected.

(e) Before the Principal Chief enters on the execution of his office, he shall publicly take the following oath or affirmation:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute The Office of Principal Chief of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and will, to the best of my ability, uphold the Constitution of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

Section 2. (a) The Principal Chief shall create and organize the Executive Office of the Principal Chief; and

(b) With the advice and consent of The Muscogee (Creek) National Council appoint offices of the Executive Office. The National Council may, by ordinance, vest the appointment of such inferior offices as they think proper in the Principal Chief alone or in the officers.

(c) The Principal Chief shall have the power to fill vacancies by granting commissions which shall expire at the beginning of the next National Council meeting.

Section 3. The Principal Chief shall prepare the annual budget requests and supplements thereto and with the advice and consent of the National Council administer funds within the control of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Section 4. The Principal Chief shall from time to time however not less than once a year give to The Muscogee (Creek) National Council information of the state of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and recommend for their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient. He may on extraordinary occasions convene The Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, as it geographically appeared in 1900, shall be divided into eight (8) districts corresponding namely with the Counties of Creek, Hughes/Seminole[4], McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee/Seminole, Okmulgee, Tulsa, and Wagoner/Rogers/Mayes, in whole or portion thereof.

Section 2. All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall consist of one (1) House with one (1) Representative from each district and one (1) additional representative for each 1,500 citizens. And further, that the number of National Council Representatives will be set at a maximum of twenty-six (26) members and additional seats may not be added without constitutional amendment.

(a) Each representative shall be elected by a vote of the district and shall hold office for two (2) years.

(b) Each Representative shall be a legal resident of his District for a full calendar year.

(c) No person shall be a representative who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) and hold full citizenship or has a felony conviction within the past ten (10) years as of date of filing for candidacy, in a court of competent jurisdiction.

(d) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall elect from their number a Speaker, who shall preside over the Muscogee (Creek) National Council but shall have no vote unless the National Council be equally divided, and they shall choose a Second Speaker, who shall preside in absence of the Speaker.

Section 3. The term of office shall begin at the first meeting of the National Council following the first day of January and the oath of office shall be taken at the first meeting.

Section 4. (a) A majority of the members of The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall constitute a quorum to do business. A smaller number may adjourn or compel the attendance of absent members in a manner and under such penalties to be prescribed by ordinance.

(b) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall judge of the returns and qualifications of its members, determine the rules of its proceedings, penalize its members for disorderly behavior and, with the concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the National Council, expel a member from a meeting.

Section 5. (a) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council member shall receive a compensation for his services, to be prescribed by ordinance and paid out of the Treasury of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

(b) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council, shall choose its own secretary whose compensation shall be provided by ordinance.

(c) No National Council member shall, during their term of office, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation or such office which shall have been created or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no person holding any elective, appointive, or any other office whether compensated or not under The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be a member of the National Council during their continuance in office.

Section 6. (a) Every bill which shall have passed the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, before it becomes ordinance, shall be presented to the Principal Chief of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation. If he approves, he shall sign it; but, if not, he shall return it with his objections to The Muscogee (Creek) National Council, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds (2/3) of the full membership of The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall pass the bill, it shall become an ordinance. In such cases, the vote shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the person voting for and against shall be entered on the journal of The Muscogee (Creek) National Council. If any bill shall be returned by the Principal Chief within ten (10) days, Sundays and holidays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be an ordinance as if he had signed it.

(b) Every order, resolution, or other act intended to reflect the policy of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be submitted in accordance with the rules and limitations prescribed in case of a bill.

(c) Every ordinance, order, resolution, or other act intended to reflect the policy of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be stamped with The Seal of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and be signed by the Principal Chief of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Section 7. The National Council shall have the power (subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States of America) to legislate on matters subject to limitations imposed by this Constitution as follows:

(a) To promote the public health and safety, education and welfare that may contribute to the social, physical well-being and economic advancement of citizens of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

(b) To negotiate with Federal, State, and local government and others.

(c) To manage, lease, prevent the sale of, dispose or otherwise deal with tribal lands, communal resources or other interest belonging to The Muscogee (Creek) Nation or reserved for the benefit of such Nation.

(d) To authorize and make appropriations from available funds for tribal purposes. All expenditures of tribal funds shall be a matter of public record open to all the citizens of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation at all reasonable times.

(e) To enter contracts in behalf of The Nation with any legal activity that will further the well-being of the members of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

(f) to employ legal counsel.

(g) To borrow money on the Credit of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and pledge or assign chattels of future tribal income as security therefore.

(h) To lay and collect taxes within the boundary of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's jurisdiction from whatever source derived.

(i) To create authorities with attendant powers to achieve objectives allowed within the scope of this Constitution.

(j) To exercise any power not specifically set forth in this Article which may at some future date be exercised by The Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

ARTICLE VII

Section 1. The judicial power of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be vested in one Supreme Court limited to matters of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's jurisdiction and in such inferior courts as the National Council may from time to time ordain.

Section 2. The Supreme Court shall be composed of six (6) members appointed by the Principal Chief, subject to majority approval by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, and whose term shall be for six (6) years beginning July 1.

Section 3. The Supreme Court shall, with the approval of The Muscogee (Creek) National Council establish procedures to insure that the appellant receives due process of law and prompt and speedy relief.

Section 4. The Supreme Court shall be presided over by a Supreme Court Justice chosen from their own number and shall be in regular, quarterly-scheduled session, coinciding with that of the fiscal year.

Section 5. The decision of the Supreme Court shall be in writing and shall be final

ARTICLE VIII

Section 1. The National Council shall enact an ordinance outlining procedures an causes for removal. Such procedures shall contain, but not limit to, the certification of the required petition, as provided in Section 2 and 3 of this Article and show of cause for removal, giving the accused an impartial hearing and allowance of time to answer to notice of such hearing.

Section 2. A signed petition showing cause of removal containing twenty (20) percent of registered voters in a district shall be cause to consider removal of a council members.

Section 3. A signed petition showing cause of removal containing twenty (20) percent of the registered voters of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be cause to consider removal of the Principal Chief, Second Chief, and/or any member of he Supreme Court. A three-fourths (3/4) vote of The National Council shall be required for removal from office.

ARTICLE IX

Section 1. (a) This Constitution shall be amended by:

(1) Passage of an amendment ordinance before The Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall require two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote and thereafter

(2) A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the eligible voters who vote in special election called for said purpose by the Principal Chief pursuant to the rules and regulations that The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall prescribe.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Principal Chief to set such an election date at the request of a majority of The Muscogee (Creek) National Council within thirty (30) calendar days.

(c) Amendments ratified shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior or his agent for his approval and shall have full force and effect from the date of approval. The Secretary of the Interior or his agent shall give his approval or disapproval in writing within ninety (90) days, citing reason if disapproved. Failure to respond in the time limits set forth shall be construed as an act of approval.

ARTICLE X

Section 1. This Constitution, when ratified by:

(a) Those eligible to vote herein defined as:
(1) Those persons whose names appear on the final rolls of the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137) or

(2) Those persons who are lineal descendants of a person whose name appears on the final rolls of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137) and

(b) A majority of those eligible who are registered to vote who vote in this Constitution Ratification Election of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation provided at least 30 percent of those registered voters shall vote.

SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON THE DATE OF RATIFICATION

Section 2. For the purposes of the first election of officers and representatives under this Constitution:

(a) Those persons eligible to vote shall include all persons registered for the Constitution Ratification Election and those persons thereafter registered who are Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood and 18 years of age or more on the date of the election.

(b) Each district shall elect one representative.

ADOPTED this 20th day of August, 1979, by the Creek Constitution Commission in accordance with the Court Order of September 2, 1976, in the case of Harjo vx. Andrus, Case 4-179, U.S.; District Court, Washington, D.C.

Constitution Amendment Committee

Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month
Mound Building, Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex, U.S. 75 and loop 56, Okmulgee

Richard Berryhill, chair — Wagoner/Mayes District Representative
903 E. N. St.
Coweta, OK 74429
Home: (918) 486-5964

Patrick Moore, vice chair — District court judge
P.O. Box 652
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 758-1400
mvskoke@aol.com

A.D. Ellis -- second chief
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-8700, ext. 203

Roger Barnett — Creek District Representative
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Bristow, OK 74010
Home: (918) 367-3924

Creek District citizen
vacant

Tom Pickering — McIntosh District Representative
HC-63, Box 313
Eufaula, OK 74432
Home: (918) 689-4180
Work: (918) 689-2411

Vernon Courtwright, segeant at arms — McIntosh District citizen
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Checotah, OK 74426
Home: (918) 473-7053

Daniel Wind — Muskogee District Representative
1700 W. 53rd S.
Muskogee, OK 74401
Home: (918) 686-5322

Leon Yahola — Muskogee District citizen
1811 Tanglewood Lane
Muskogee, OK 74401
Cell: (918) 521-0170
Work: (918) 687-2290

Mae Jackson — Okfuskee District Representative
Rt. 3, Box 28-A
Okemah, OK 74859
Home: (918) 623-0751

Dora Birdcreek — Okfuskee District Citizen
P.O. Box 137
Weleetka, OK 74880
Home: (405) 786-2356

David Lewis, sergeant at arms — Okmulgee District Representative
P.O. Box 635
Henryetta, OK 74437
Home: (918) 652-3841

Anderson Hale — Okmulgee District citizen
901 N. 275th Road
Mounds, OK 74047
Home: (918) 366-6861

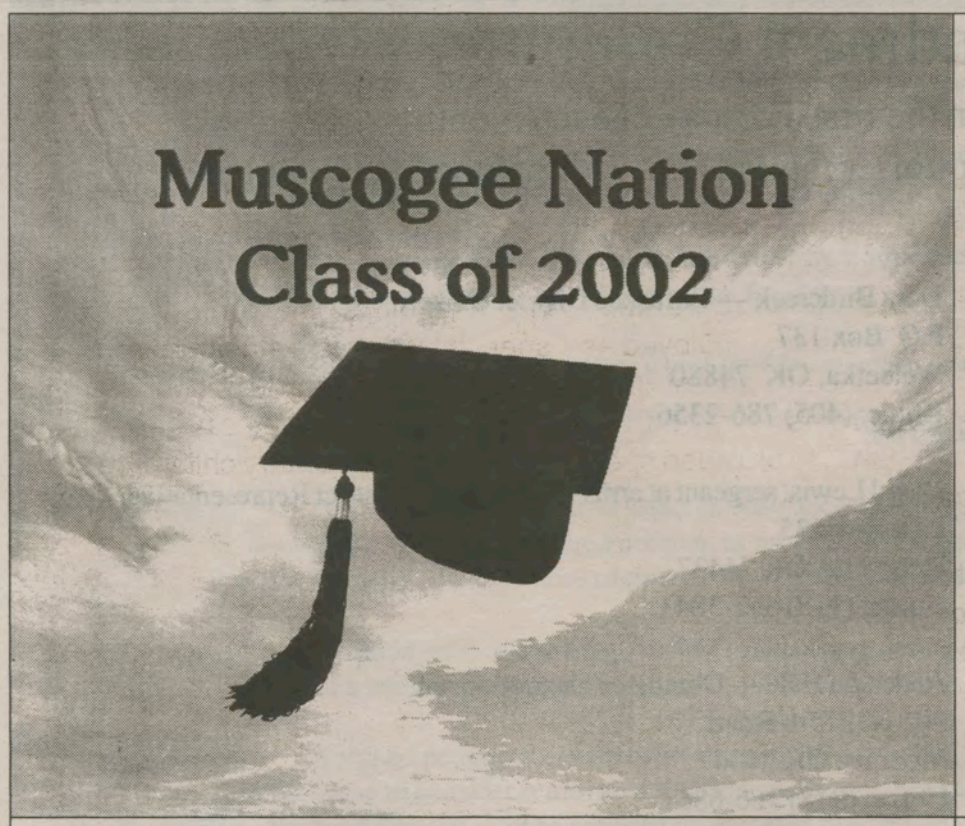
Thomas Yahola — Tukvpvtce District Representative
P.O. Box 303
Wetumka, OK 74883
Home: (405) 452-3552
Cell: (918) 759-8208

Rosemary Maxey — Tukvpvtce District citizen
9378 E. 123
Dustin, OK 74839
Home: (918) 656-3725

Cherrah Quiett — Tulsa District Representative
4613 E. 25th St.
Tulsa, OK 74114
Cell: (918) 645-0114
Work: (918) 294-2029

Robert Trepp — Tulsa District citizen
Rt.2, Box 203
Beggs, OK 74421
Home: (918) 267-4692
Work: (918) 224-6626

Deloise Johnson — Wagoner/Mayes District citizen
806 N. Division St.
Coweta, OK 74429
Home: (918) 486-6183



Andrea "Niki" Baker

University of North Dakota
Degree: bachelor of science in nursing
Parents: Ramona Mason and Andrew Skeeter of Tulsa
Grandparents: the late Jimmie and Sadie Skeeter, and Ella Crume Knight
Activities: member of Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground and Montesoma Baptist Church
Plans: to work with diabetes/dialysis patients

Michelle Dawn Bible

Haskell Indian Nations University
Degree: bachelor of science in elementary education
Parents: Beth Romick Blalock and Dana Bible of Berryhill
Awards: graduated with high honors
Activities: member of the Student Senate; ACCES Club; Native American Church Club; and Future Tribal Leaders Association
Plans: to attend the University of Kansas School of Social Work

Tonya Bigpond

Northeastern State University
Degree: masters of education
Parents: Rev. Negiel and Jan Bigpond
Grandparents: the late Lilly Cox and Rev. Roy Bigpond; and Edna Driscoll and the late Jimmy Tiger
Awards: graduated with an overall grade point average of 3.5
Plans: to teach in the Muscogee Nation area

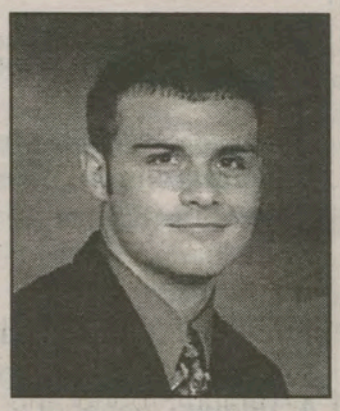
Rita Breashears

Northeastern State University
Degree: bachelor of science degree in special education
Awards: Cum Laude — grade point average 3.4 to 3.59; top 10 percent of graduating class; received a special graduation sash for participation from Education Professionals for Indian Children; Education Professionals for Indian Children scholarship; and Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education scholarship
Activities: student council for Exceptional Children and Education Professionals for Indian Children
Plans: to teach special education at Beggs High School; and enroll in the early childhood education graduate program at NSU

Adrianne Elise Brown

Morris High School
Parents: Franklin and Lydia Brown
Grandparents: Florence and the late Felix Brown of Okmulgee; Pauline Starr Proctor of Okmulgee; and Sam and Connie Proctor of Dustin
Great-grandparents: the late Nicey Wilson of the Twin Hills Community
Awards: Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society, 4 years; Oklahoma Honor Society, 4 years; National Honor Society, 2 years; Who's Who Among American High School Students; All-American Scholar; and Student of the Month
Activities: basketball, 4 years; softball, 1 year; basketball homecoming queen 2001-2002; senior class historian; and National Honor Society president
Plans: to attend the University of Oklahoma and pursue a degree in pre-medicine

Zeddie Cantrell Jr.



Northeastern State University
Parents: Zeddie and Terri Cantrell of Bristow
Awards: inducted into NSU's Hall of Fame; NSU's Top Male Outstanding Senior; youngest and only person to win outstanding Greek male, 2 years; featured in the National Association of College Activities Magazine, 3 years; selected outstanding senator, 2 years; Who's Who Among American College Students, 2 years
Activities: president of Lamaba Chi Alpha Fraternity; accepted into the Order of Omega, Rho Theta Sigma, and Alpha Chi Honor Societies; Ambassador for NSU to the Gov. George and Donna Nigh Institute; taught his own leadership course for 3 years; and helped start a new Leadership Training Camp called STOMP
Plans: to attend NSU's College of Optometry

Jennifer Day

San Jose State University-California
Degree: masters in communicative disorders and sciences
Parents: Gary and Betty Martin Gerber
Grandparents: Carl and Betty Martin of Broken Arrow
Great Grandparents: Minnie Chisholm Chalakee
Activities: employed as a speech language pathologist and has a particular interest in autism spectrum disorders and language disorders
Plans: to provided speech therapy to elementary children

Sheena DePriest

Glenpool High School
Parents: Mike and Shelly DePriest of Glenpool
Grandparents: Mitchell and Verda DePriest of Bixby
Awards: National Honor Society; Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society; volleyball all-state and most valuable player
Activities: cheerleading; senior class secretary; president of the Heritage Club
Plans: to attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University on a volleyball Scholarship and major in accounting

Erica A. Fish

Wetumka High School
Parents: Bill Fish Jr. and Judith Harjo
Grandparents: Maxine Harjo and the late Doc Harjo; and the late Bill and Betty Fish
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Awards: Who's Who Among American High School Students, 3 years; National Honor Society, 2 years; principal and superintendent's honor roll, 4 years; National Science and Math Merit Award, 2 years
Activities: softball, 1 year; FCA, 1 year; FFA, 3 years; Native American Club, 3 years; band, 2 years; pep club, 1 year; yearbook, 2 years; class officer, 1 year
Plans: to attend Northeastern State University

Julie Ann James

Haskell Indian Nations University
Degree: associate of arts degree in computer information systems
Parents: Glenda and the late Page James
Awards: dean's honor roll; president's honor roll
Activities: Future Tribal Leaders Association; Indian Leader Association
Plans: to attend a summer research program at the University of Illinois and then return to Haskell to begin work toward a bachelor of science degree in environmental science

Joe Layne

Wagoner High School
Parents: Rev. Jimmy and Karen Layne
Grandparents: Annie Mae O'Field and the late Richard O'Field of the Twin Hills Community
Awards: 1st place in state computer applications competition, national qualifier; freshman, sophomore, junior band escort; band king; John Phillips Sousa Award recipient
Activities: concert, jazz, marching, and pep bands; drum major; band president; Business Professionals of America Vice President; mock trial team; video production editor; Future Business Leaders Chapter Treasurer; school mascot; theater; drama; musical theater; director and sponsor of Wagoner Middle School Drama; member of the First Free Will Baptist Church
Plans: to attend Oklahoma Baptist University and major in applied ministry

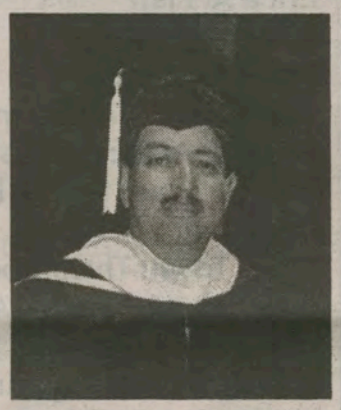
Monica Campbell McAlister

East Central University
Degree: bachelor of science in business/office technology
Parents: Tom and Connie Campbell of Stratford
Grandparents: Jack and Beatrice Campbell of Eufaula; Dennis and Kathleen Shaver of Eufaula

Britny Alisa Patterson

American Schools-Lansing, Ill.
Grandparents: Gladys Stone Mason
Great Grandparents: Susie Phillips Stone
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Tulsa
Awards: received awards from the girls golf team and girls softball team at Durango High School
Activities: manager at Polo Ralph Lauren, 2 years; completed shared schooling at Durango High School
Plans: to attend Fort Lewis College majoring in business

Mark Pike



University of Minnesota
Parents: the late Richard B. Pike and Patsy Pike Verucchi, of Weleetka
Grandparents: the late James and Sarah Pike of Weleetka; the late Rev. Jimmy Asbury and Nellie Asbury of Weleetka
Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town: Weleetka
Activities: currently the chief of Environmental Health Services Branch in Tucson Area Indian Health Service, Tucson, Ariz.
Plans: to continue serving the environmental health needs of Indian people wherever assigned

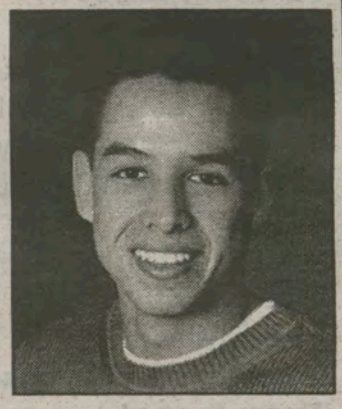
Mekko Jamison Tyner

Haskell Indian Nations University
Degree: bachelor of science in business administration with an emphasis in tribal management
Parents: Claude and Belinda Tyner of Tulsa
Awards: graduated with high honors
Activities: president of the student senate; ACCES Club; Native American Church Club; Future Tribal Leaders Association; and the football team
Plans: to attend the University of Kansas School of Law

Athena Dawn Watashe

Glenpool High School
Parents: the late Charlene Cosar Watashe of Glenpool and Richard Watashe of Sapulpa
Grandparents: the late Amanda Randall Cosar of Sapulpa; Charlie Cosar of Wewoka; Lawrence and Minnie Watashe of Sapulpa
Awards: 1999 Muskogee Indian Community Tournament Most Valubale Player; 2000 Tulsa 7 All-Conference Honorable Mention; 2001 and 2002 Tulsa Pre-Season All-Conference Lady Warrior team captain; All Metro Team; Sequoyah Pepsi Classic All Tournament; Tulsa All Conference Team; Who's Who Among American High School Students and in sports
Activities: National Honor Society, 3 years; Heritage Club, 2 years; Circle Club; FCCLA
Plans: to attend Seminole State College and major in child psychology

Clint Wilson



Morris High School
Parents: Lawrence and Sandy Wilson of Morris
Grandparents: the late James and Carmen Griffin Fife and the late Alfred and Ruth King Wilson
Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town: Tukvpvtce
Awards: MHS Golf Most Valuable Player; Morris News MVP, 3 years; All-Conference in golf, 2 years; regional qualifier in 3A golf, 2001-2002; first team honorable mention in 2002 High School Christian Student/Athlete All-American Program; the U.S. Achievement Academy; Oklahoma All-State Golf; Indian All-State Basketball
Activities: FCA; AISES; Spanish Club; Title IX/ JOM; Creek Nation Olympics; Creek Nation JOM Art Contest; basketball, 3 years; football,

EDITH JACOBS

CHECOTAH — Funeral services for Edith Jacobs were held June 6 at Smith Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Gary McKeen and Tommy Shropshire officiating.

Wake services were held June 5 at the chapel.

Jacobs died June 2 in Eufaula. She was born Dec. 10, 1904 in Stidham, Indian Territory to Edward H. and Eula Coody Walker. She was an original allottee.

Jacobs

She attended the Eufaula Indian Boarding School and Bacone College. She was united in marriage to Johnny Jacobs on Sept. 29, 1928 at Checotah and resided in the Pierce Community where she was a homemaker and mother. She was a member of the Brush Hill Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband; one daughter, Eula J. Prater; two brothers, Johnie and George Walker; one sister, Mineola Douglas; and one grandson, Philip Prater.

She is survived by: one son, Eddie Jacobs of Oklahoma City; two daughters, Betty Prince of Sequim, Wash. and Faith Pemberton Castles of Walnut Creek, Calif.; three sisters, Mary Elsey of Portland, Ore., Susan Perry of Holdenville, and Mamie Toon of Eufaula; eight grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Casketbearers were: Dennis Prater; Brad and James Pemberton Jr.; Damien Jacobs; Anthony Walking-Bear; Vincent and Greg Prince; and Paul Toon. Honorary casketbearers were: Michael and Bud Perry; Donal Prater; Billy Moore; H.B. Taylor; Herman Vogt; John Davis; Robert Jacobs; and Joe LeCour.

Interment was at Pierce Cemetery.

KENNETH MCCOMBS

PARSONS, Kan. — Funeral Services for Kenneth W. McCombs were held June 10 at Oakwood Cemetery with Rev. John Chastain officiating.

McCombs died June 5 at Freeman West Hospital in Joplin, Mo. He was born Dec. 8, 1938 in Sapulpa to Joseph J. McCombs and Elsie V. Allen McCombs.

He grew up and attended schools in Sapulpa, graduating from Sapulpa High School in 1957. For several years, he lived in Oklahoma and worked in Tulsa. In 1972, he moved to Bartlett, Kan. and worked at the Huntsman Camper Manufacturing Company in Chetopa, Kan. In 1974, he returned to Tulsa where he was employed with Riverside Steel until moving back to Bartlett in 1979. For a time, he worked at Wood-Aire in Chetopa and later at Ruskin Manufacturing and Jayco Vent Valve. He was currently employed at Power Flame in Parsons, Kan., where he had worked for the past eight years. He married Marcia Kinzer on June 10, 1989. He was a member of South Heights Baptist Church in Sapulpa.

He was preceded in death by a brother and sister, Marshall and Joan McCombs.

He is survived by: his wife of the home; two sons, Larry McCombs of Oswego, Kan. and Darin Vaughn of Mound Valley, Kan.; three daughters, Sue Brown of Bartlesville, Kim Nading and Janet Brewer, both of Parsons; 10 grandchildren; one great-grandson; and two brothers, Joseph and Charles McCombs, both of Sapulpa.

Internment was at Oakwood Cemetery.

NELLIE McCOSAR

SAPULPA — Nellie Katherine Cornell McCosar died April 25 at her residence in Sapulpa.

She was born on April 20, 1913 to Rev. Willie and Ellen Tea Cornell. She was raised in the Little River Community, south of Holdenville. She was a member of the Sweet Potato Clan and Little River Tulsa Tribal Town.

She attended school at Little River and graduated from Chilocco Indian School in 1933. She was employed as a clerk at a department store in Holdenville until she married Matthew McCosar in 1935. She retired from the Fruhauf Uniform Company, Wichita, Kan. in 1978. She spent many years as a seamstress for a drapery company in the Los Angeles, Calif. area. She was baptized at Many Springs Baptist Church in the 1920s. In recent years, she moved her membership to Little Cussetah Baptist Church. She enjoyed many years singing in the choir. She enjoyed sewing Indian shirts, making quilts, clothes, and cooking native foods.

She was preceded in death by one son, Winford McCosar.

She is survived by: 12 children, Shirley A. Almerigi of Okmulgee, Matthew McCosar Jr. of Riverside, Calif., Bunnie Bruce McCosar of Layfayette, Ga., Sandra E. Johnson of Tulsa, Judy Louise TwoTwo of Cudahy, Calif., Rita Joyce Richards of Tulsa, Paula Ruth Willits of Tulsa, Victor McCosar of Tulsa, Josie Ann Sapien of Sapulpa, Larry McCosar of Bristow, Thomas McCosar of Los Angeles, and Beverly Dennis of Lawrence, Kan; 33 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren, and four great-great grandchildren.

JOSEPHINE MORGAN

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Josephine Morgan were held June 25 at Montesoma Baptist Church with Rev. Kellos Walker and Willis Knight officiating.

Wake services were held June 24 at the church.

Morgan died June 21. She was born Nov. 29, 1925 in Okfuskee County to Marchie Davis and Melinda Harjochee. She was raised by Edie Keys.

She was married to Louis W. Morgan and resided in Morris. Morgan was a lifetime member of Montesoma Indian Baptist Church. She was baptized Oct. 12, 1940 by Rev. W.F. Stoddard. She was the church secretary for many years and also served as woman's leader. She enjoyed sewing, embroidery, and completing puzzles. She taught Mvskoke culture and language to the younger generation and she enjoyed singing traditional Mvskoke hymns.

She was preceded in death by: her husband; one son, Louis W. Morgan III; two sisters, Lorene Cheek and Marion Davis; one grandson, Richard Morgan Jr.; and one great-granddaughter, Anna Regine Anderson.

She is survived by: seven sons, Robert of Bapchule, Ariz., Ronald of Eufaula, Richard of Edmond, Thomas of Fort Defiance, Ariz., Dennis and Michael, both of Morris, and John Morgan of Henryetta; three daughters, Frances of Bristow, Susie of Morris, and Ellen Morgan Lena of Okemah; 31 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, good friends and long time neighbors.

Casketbearers were sons: Ronald; Richard; Thomas; Dennis; Michael; and John Morgan.

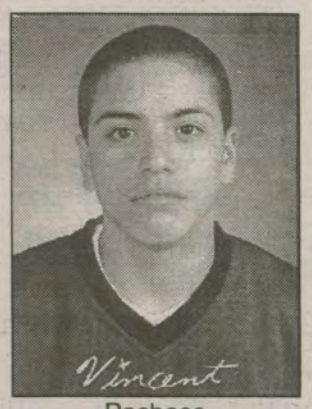
Honorary casketbearers were: Robert Morgan; J.C. Morgan; Jesse Felix; David Lena; David King; Kenneth Morgan; Harrod Anderson; Nicholas Morgan; Richard B. Sonie Morgan; Charles Kelly; and Carlos Ramirez.

Internment was at Montesoma Church Cemetery.

VINCENT PACHECO

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Vincent "Vinnie" Lunsford Pacheco were held at Smith Funeral Home with Rev. George Doyle and Andy Hale officiating.

Pacheco died May 18. He was born on July 26, 1985 to Janet Lunsford.



Pacheco

He was a student and attended Christian Renewal Church where he converted to Christianity. Pacheco enjoyed being around family and friends, playing basketball, and listening to music

He was preceded in death by: his grandfather, John C. Lunsford; and uncles, John "Rusty" and Arron Lunsford.

He is survived by: his mother; brother, Anthony; sisters, Janet, April, and Angel; grandmother, Monnie Lou Tiger Lunsford; aunts, Esther and Christine Lunsford, and Donna Felix, all of Sapulpa; and uncle, Billy G. Lunsford of Pasadena, Calif.

Interment was at South Heights Cemetery in Sapulpa.

LUCILLE SUMKA

LAMAR — Funeral services for Lucille Tildy Smith Sumka were held at Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church. on May 3 with Rev. Joe Grayson and George Polecat officiating.

Sumka died on May 1. She was born to William "Bill" and Nellie Fields Smith on August 7, 1925 in Dustin. She spent her childhood days in Dustin and was a longtime member of Middle Creek church. She was married to Benjamin H. Sumka for 56 years. She loved to sew, cook, and spend time with her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; one sister, Lizzie Gouge; half-sister, Rosie Karnard; one infant son; one son, Ben Sumka Jr.; and one granddaughter, LaDonna Sumka.

Survivors include: five daughters, Diana Grayson of Stilwell, Doris, Jeanetta, and Juanita Sumka, all of Henryetta, Abby Prentiss of Okmulgee; three sons, Marvin Sumka of Glenpool and Bill and Martin Sumka of Henryetta; two sisters, Mae Frye of Henryetta and Louise Harjo of Glenpool; one brother, Johnson Smith of Henryetta; 11 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Casketbearers were: George Polecat; Bradley Sumka; Leonard Sumka; Cheyenne Marks; Joseph Polecat; and Marvin Sumka Jr.

Flowergirls were: Chumona Polecat; Fannie Frye; Nellie Powell; and Mary Frye.

Interment was at the Smith Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

We would like to say many thanks to: Greenleaf Baptist Church ladies; Pastor Dave Hill; and Billy Coon — who helped and ministered to us in our time of sorrow.

Shelby Harjo Washington Family

Religion

Churches coordinating efforts to assist woman

BIXBY — Wekiwa Baptist, Thewarle Methodist, and Indian Fellowship Baptist churches are coordinating efforts to assist Bixby tribal citizen Nora Martinez with medical expenses related to a leukemia diagnosis.

please see **RELIGION**..., page 17

Program	Receipts	Budgets	Encumbered	Expended	Balance
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	5,390.00	263,547.00	2,237.00	0.00	261,310.00
CN SALES TAX	66,370.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BINGO RESERVE	5,482,973.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CREEK NATION TRAVEL PLAZAS	110,212.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TREASURY	1,236,893.00	27,340.00	1,239,325.00	0.00	(1,211,985.00)
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	2,248.00	57,709.00	0.00	0.00	57,709.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	545,501.00	1,527,302.00	689,724.00	19,285.00	818,293.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	501,523.00	2,329,805.00	1,148,474.00	13,222.00	1,168,109.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	1,077,462.00	2,904,272.00	1,302,563.00	43,323.00	1,558,386.00
RAMAH CONTRACT SUPPORT	12,221.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONSUMER LOANS	8,685.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CREEK NATION BINGO	3,801,130.00	6,359,064.00	2,887,896.00	149,827.00	3,321,341.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	2,666,844.00	190,586.00	5,318,574.00	9,475.00	(5,137,463.00)
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	6,209,574.00	0.00	29,590.00	0.00	(29,590.00)
BOK SETTLEMENT	5,128.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	840.00	1,925.00	1,314.00	0.00	611.00
HOLDENVILLE COMMUNITY	0.00	10,000.00	3,214.00	0.00	6,786.00
A.G. EDWARDS	109,296.00	0.00	2,988.00	0.00	(2,988.00)
CODIFICATION	1,793.00	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
4-H CLUB	200.00	8,000.00	2,531.00	0.00	5,469.00
READING IS FUNDAMENTAL	3,477.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRIBAL BUDGET	300,672.00	318,376.00	24,690.00	0.00	293,686.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC.	458.00	2,160.00	0.00	2,156.00	4.00
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	97.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	766,028.00	1,229,282.00	656,148.00	99,634.00	473,500.00
HEALTH EDUCATION	10,145.00	43,180.00	32,385.00	0.00	10,795.00
WIA-TITLE I	21,799.00	55,932.00	21,669.00	31,433.00	2,830.00
SUMMER YOUTH '00	6,404.00	6,404.00	6,404.00	0.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE I '01	322,247.00	616,016.00	322,246.00	6,733.00	287,037.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '01	86,139.00	175,612.00	86,139.00	1,075.00	88,398.00
WELFARE TO WORK	41,545.00	57,208.00	41,545.00	0.00	15,663.00
JTPA TITLE IV-A	46,036.00	48,657.00	46,036.00	704.00	1,917.00
SUMMER YOUTH '99	5,158.00	5,158.00	5,158.00	0.00	0.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	31,601.00	40,392.00	31,601.00	0.00	8,791.00
HUD-MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	446,906.00	446,906.00	446,906.00	0.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '00	14,386,431.00	13,561,751.00	4,478,377.00	1,029,057.00	8,054,317.00
HUD-SAPULPA CLINIC	0.00	750,000.00	0.00	0.00	750,000.00
HUD-ROSS '01	115,953.00	239,873.00	115,953.00	0.00	123,920.00
HUD-NAHASDA '01	15,307,490.00	16,619,727.00	0.00	0.00	16,619,727.00
HUD-DRUG ELIMINATION	96,443.00	550,142.00	96,443.00	0.00	453,699.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	4,535,122.00	3,900,741.00	842,938.00	904,520.00	2,153,283.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	7,661,291.00	6,757,765.00	971,177.00	972,011.00	4,814,577.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '00	721.00	0.00	721.00	0.00	(721.00)
CCDBG '00	24,379.00	25,220.00	24,379.00	1,403.00	(562.00)
HEAD START '00	7,483.00	0.00	7,483.00	0.00	(7,483.00)
FAMILY VIOLENCE '00	445.00	25,486.00	445.00	1,038.00	24,003.00
LIHEAP '01	1,254.00	45,300.00	1,322.00	0.00	43,978.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '01	104,850.00	152,228.00	105,750.00	12,478.00	34,000.00
CCDBG - DISCRETIONARY	401,038.00	401,038.00	401,038.00	0.00	0.00
CCDBG - MANDATORY	107,364.00	498,012.00	107,363.00	13,790.00	376,859.00
HEADSTART '01	467,437.00	649,544.00	467,437.00	0.00	182,107.00
TITLE IV-B '01	116,571.00	169,881.00	116,570.00	14,087.00	39,224.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '01	103,409.00	255,044.00	103,408.00	20,490.00	131,146.00
LIHEAP '02	55,468.00	120,550.00	55,638.00	0.00	64,912.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '02	0.00	196,898.00	0.00	0.00	196,898.00
CCDBG-DISCRETIONARY '02	189,052.00	1,405,384.00	189,004.00	3,987.00	1,212,393.00
CCDBG-MANDATORY '02	637,617.00	2,510,213.00	637,617.00	17,928.00	1,854,668.00
HEAD START '02	593,083.00	1,948,423.00	593,083.00	37,544.00	1,317,796.00
TITLE IV-B '02	0.00	227,858.00	0.00	0.00	227,858.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '01	4,729.00	8,444.00	4,729.00	0.00	3,715.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '02	156,350.00	414,000.00	156,350.00	5,020.00	252,630.00
FEMA INCOME	86,452.00	79,919.00	79,919.00	0.00	0.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	37.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	614.00	41,000.00	9,393.00	1,775.00	29,832.00
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	253,515.00	414,276.00	105,492.00	920.00	307,864.00
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	77,471.00	78,000.00	40,588.00	25,000.00	12,412.00
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	14,790.00	25,660.00	7,233.00	0.00	18,427.00
ELECTION BD PROG INCOME	419.00	1,219.00	0.00	0.00	1,219.00
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	896.00	4,111.00	1,209.00	0.00	2,902.00
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	4,992.00	7,621.00	0.00	2,773.00	4,848.00
FOOD DIST. PROG. INCOME	1,466.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
LIGHTHORSE PROG. INCOME	447.00	3,600.00	0.00	0.00	3,600.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE INTEREST	10,748.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVIDING OPP. WITH ALGEBRA	7,913.00	40,542.00	7,913.00	1,956.00	30,673.00
DOE-LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC	0.00	4,000.00	1,833.00	0.00	2,167.00
DOE-LIBRARY TECH GRANT	0.00	2,000.00	500.00	1,500.00	0.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	4,339,238.00	5,210,896.00	2,368,773.00	40,741.00	2,801,382.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '00	260.00	20,521.00	5,299.00	0.00	15,222.00
DOI-ENVIRN CLEAN-UP	0.00	6,469.00	0.00	0.00	6,469.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	7,677.00	620,637.00	280,057.00	1,800.00	338,780.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.'00	1,781.00	56,394.00	5,275.00	47.00	51,072.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '01	687.00	14,447.00	1,682.00	0.00	12,765.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '01	12,055.00	476,875.00	342,355.00	21,070.00	113,450.00
EUFAULA DORM '01	875,618.00	1,267,368.00	472,271.00	35,069.00	760,028.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.'01	0.00	78,052.00	0.00	0.00	78,052.00
LAMAR ROAD	0.00	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
IRR SPECIAL PLANNING	6,522.00	6,522.00	6,522.00	0.00	0.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
LITTLE CUSSETH CHURCH RD	1,022.00	158,962.00	1,021.00	0.00	157,941.00
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	245,198.00	650,000.00	245,197.00	345,709.00	59,094.00
THEWARLE CHURCH ROAD	1,021.00	250,000.00	11,312.00	190,107.00	48,581.00
PORTER ROAD	358,072.00	497,280.00	358,071.00	0.00	139,209.00
OLD BIXBY ROAD	5,434.00	917,202.00	5,434.00	744,984.00	166,784.00
SALEM ROAD	8,805.00	350,000.00	8,804.00	242,217.00	98,979.00
SKELLY/HASKELL ROAD	1,864.00	752,955.00	1,863.00	0.00	751,092.00
METHODIST CHURCH ROAD	1,021.00	195,000.00	1,021.00	0.00	193,979.00
HECTORVILLE ROAD	1,911.00	1,289,655.00	1,910.00	0.00	1,287,745.00
SUMMIT SOUTH ROAD	1,864.00	202,277.00	1,863.00	0.00	200,414.00
JOM-EARLY CHILDHOOD '02	13,512.00	13,512.00	577.00	2,180.00	10,755.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '02	962,232.00	962,232.00	80,595.00	1,999.00	879,638.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	190,255.00	3,751,439.00	198,254.00	136,700.00	3,416,485.00
EUFAULA DORM '97	256.00	88,639.00	86,659.00	1,980.00	0.00
EUFAULA DORM '98	10.00	882.00	882.00	0.00	0.00
EUFAULA DORM '99	2,374.00	142,071.00	69,938.00	6,245.00	65,888.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPRO '99	1.00	16,576.00	4,048.00	0.00	12,528.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	576,453.00	623,721.00	576,452.00	0.00	47,269.00
WATER QUALITY	745.00	8,267.00	521.00	0.00	7,746.00
TRIBAL RESOURCES (COPS)	0.00	1,262.00	670.00	0.00	592.00
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE	3,013.00	56,568.00	4,471.00	6.00	52,091.00
DRUG COURT '01	5,079.00	137,629.00	12,099.00	1,475.00	124,055.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	52,671.00	229,125.00	55,157.00	1,168.00	172,800.00
DRUG COURT '99	4,178.00	49,490.00	2,539.00	0.00	46,951.00
EPA	24,747.00	111,853.00	24,747.00	0.00	87,106.00
MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	15,661.00	1,615,842.00	1,217,211.00	398,631.00	0.00
COMMUNITY CENTERS PROJ	1,942.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRAVEL PLAZA ENTERPRISE	738,843.00	435,500.00	435,500.00	0.00	0.00
MUSKOGEE OFFICE BLDG	0.00	0.00	736,757.00	3,987,524.00	(4,724,281.00)
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	5,750.00	4,000.00	(1,747.00)	0.00	5,747.00
LIGHTHORSE SERVICES	20,140.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	41,613.00	241,130.00	88,636.00	9,605.00	142,889.00
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	18,171.00	0.00	4,445.00	0.00	(4,445.00)
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	11,299.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NEIL CAMPBELL SCHOLARSHIP	26.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	255,136.00	817,027.00	232,648.00	4,423.00	579,956.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	1,457,066.00	2,541,004.00	978,991.00	477,219.00	1,084,794.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	36,364.00	107,212.00	15,865.00	3,687.00	87,660.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	160,499.00	73,000.00	317,870.00	1,424.00	(246,294.00)
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	895,605.00	0.00	883,597.00	0.00	(883,597.00)
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	1,382.00	0.00	1,250.00	0.00	(1,250.00)
EUFAULA DORM SCHOLARSHIP	3,210.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	**80,835,018.00**	**94,018,196.00**	**34,228,024.00**	**10,100,154.00**	**49,690,018.00**

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending March 31, 2002
Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending March 31, 2002 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditures, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending March 31, 2002 The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending March 31, 2002.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of March 31, 2002.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

Notices

continued from page 4

Narcomey-Bezzell graduated from Connors State College with a degree in gerontology. She is a member of the Muscogee Nation and is also of Cherokee, Choctaw, and Seminole descent. She of Muskogee is the daughter of Jackson Narcomey and Edwina Crowder.

To contact her or for more information, call 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 398.

Indian roads program holding meetings

TULSA — The Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Reservation Roads Program is holding a series of meetings around the country educate the public on proposed rules that are the product of negotiated rulemaking between tribal representatives and federal representatives from the Department of the Interior under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.

One of several nationwide meetings on the proposed rules is being held on Sept. 17 in Tulsa.

The BIA Indian Roads Program provides funding for eligible transportation projects that provide access to or within Indian reservations, Indian lands, Indian communities, and Alaska Native villages. The program consists of 55,944 miles of roads and 4,185 bridges.

The schedule of meetings is published in the Federal Register. The comment period for the proposed rules ends Oct. 6.

Written comments may be mailed or hand delivered to: U.S. Department of Transportation, Dockets Management Facility, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St. SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001; or submitted electronically at http://dms.dot.gov/submit. Docket number FHWA-2002-12229 must be included at the top of all comments.

Boarding school research team seeks volunteers

STILLWATER — Faculty and students from Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma are inviting volunteers to participate in a research project on Indian boarding schools.

Participation will include being interviewed about boarding school experience and completing a psychological questionnaire. The interview will be audio recorded. Combined, the interview and questionnaire will take around one hour and 30 minutes to complete. The purpose of this research project is to describe the experience of American Indians who lived in dormitories while attending elementary or secondary school. All subject data, including audio recordings, will be locked and secured in the counseling psychology clinic in Willard Building, OSU campus, and will be destroyed when the study is published.

The group interviewers will be doctoral students in counseling psychology at OSU, OU, and/or faculty members in the counseling psychology program at OSU. An anticipated possible risk includes that participants may experience some personal distress as a result of sharing personal experiences.

The research team plans to write about the information collected from this study and publish an article in an academic journal. No individual, their tribal affiliation, or school name will be identified. Written feedback will be provided to participants at the completion of the study.

Individuals that are interested may contact: Stephen A. Colmant at (405) 547-2617; Lahoma Schultz at (918) 252-7752 or (918) 694-1881; or Rockey Robbins at (405) 325-8442 or (405) 366-7214.

Tribal outdoor learning center construction underway

OKMULGEE — An outdoor learning center is being constructed on the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex to assist tribal members in conservation education efforts.

The area is being developed under the direction of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Services office.

The site, located around an existing pond, is located in close proximity to the Okmulgee Child Development Center, Okmulgee Nutrition Program Site, and Okmulgee Head Start. A community working group consisting of elders, educators, community leaders, a facility maintenance manager, as well as other stakeholders has been established to ensure a sense of ownership and traditionalism.

Its uses will include: education — the site will provide an outdoor setting for students to learn. Native and important plant species will be planted and labeled for identification in English and Mvskoke languages. Sidewalks will have imprinted animal tracks; cultural preservation — this will provide an atmosphere where stories, traditions, knowledge and wisdom can be passed on. The structure is to be planned by elders to ensure that it is conducive to story telling and conservation education. Tribal communities could use the area for community meetings also; health and recreation — trails and walkways will provide a place for tribal employees and elder tribal citizens to exercise. Fish are to be stocked into the pond for fishing clinics; career development — as students learn in the outdoor settings, it is hoped that it will foster careers in natural resources, agriculture, and the environmental sciences. Tribal citizens and natural resource professionals can be invited for educational classes and workshops; and natural resources — the site is to be utilized for planting and preserving native and important plant species.

For more information, call Lester Liggins, NRCS, at (918) 756-8700, ext. 617.

All-you-can eat benefit dinner being held

OKMULGEE — An all you can eat benefit dinner will be held at 11 a.m., Sept. 14 at Okmulgee Indian Community center.

The cost is $6 for adults and $5 for children ages 12 and under. Proceeds go towards medical expenses for Cora Mae Wilson.

For more information, contact Billy Jack or Natalie Wilson at (918) 759-9990.

Religion

continued from page 15

To contribute or offer assistance, call Newman Crowels at (918) 224-3917.

Springfield holding all-you-can-eat fish fry

OKEMAH — Springfield Methodist Church is holding an all-you-can-eat fish fry from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Sept. 7 at Oklahoma National Guard Armory.

The cost is $6 for adults and $3 for children ages 12 and under.

Revival helps Sunday School children

HENRYETTA — Hickory Ground Baptist Church No. 1 is having a one-night revival — "In Spirit of Giving" at 6 p.m., Sept. 7.

The purpose of the service is to raise money to help purchase school clothing for Sunday School children.

Little Springs church holding reunion

OKLAHOMA CITY — A reunion of Little Springs Baptist Church will be held from 1 to 5 p.m., Sept. 21 at Victory Baptist Church located at 2301 Southeast 15th.

Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish. For more information, contact: Delores Factor at (405) 677-2925; Christine McIntosh at (918) 689-2680; or Debra Isham at (918) 304-1225.

Woman writes story of Muscogee ancestors

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — After organizing old files about her ancestors, tribal citizen Billie Jane McIntosh decided she needed to write the story of her father's ancestors.

The results of her research is a book entitled "Ah-ko-kee: American Sovereign" which was published in August by Falling Waters Publishing.

Ah-ko-kee came from a marriage of half-blood Creeks Eliza Grierson and Chief William McIntosh. She struggled to identify with being both a southern lady and a tribal member. In one horrible night she lost both her father, William, and her husband, Sam, in an intertribal conflict. She experienced the forefront of the tribe's cultural movement into the Christian-dominated white world.

It is a history of mixed-blood tribal leaders dealing with both federal and state government leaders who were pushing tribes to relocate in the west. The conflicts within the tribe itself are also a major part of the story. The story begins along the border of Georgia and Alabama. During the years 1826 to 1833, the family members gradually moved west — to Oklahoma and Texas.

The book is a true account from documented research. All names, places, dates, and historical incidents real, according to documentation. Organizing the widely scattered material into a story running consecutively from the years 1818 to 1868 has been through the tedious work of the author. The personalities of these historical characters were created by the author's analysis, guided by researching the documented activities of their lives and by her personal knowledge of the descendants. The goal of the author was to discover what life might have been like for her ancestors at a drastically changing time in the lives of the first Americans. McIntosh's great-great grandfather was Chilly McIntosh, the elder brother of Ah-ko-kee.

McIntosh holds a bachelor's degree in editorial journalism from the University of Tulsa and a master's degree in counseling and guidance from Northern Arizona University. She has worked for the Indian Health Service and Mesa Community College in Phoenix, Ariz. She is retired and intends to pursue her writing, including another historical book. She resides in Flagstaff, Ariz.

The book may be purchased from Falling Waters Publishing by writing: P.O. 1793, Flagstaff, AZ 86002

Society

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Haskell alumni seek graduates of 1950

ALBUQUERQUE, NM — Haskell Alumni are seeking to locate Haskell Institute alumni that graduated during the years of 1950 through 1955 in preparation for an upcoming reunion.

The alumni are specifically seeking to locate the following Haskell High School graduates of 1950: Solomon Anderson; Edna Carr; Mary Jane Davis; Jean Givens; Christine Harjo; Tarpie Herrod; Kenneth Palmer; Ramona Randall; and Della Simmons.

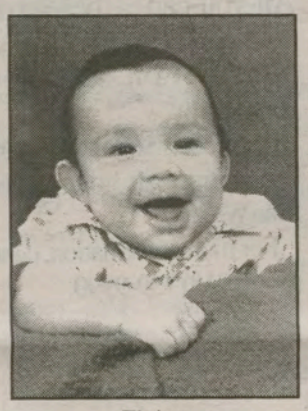
Individuals with information regarding whereabouts of the above listed alumni may contact: Ahnawake Hitcher Taylor at 2108 Stoneham Pl. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120.

Births and birthdays

Caleb Fixico

OKLAHOMA CITY — Caleb Thomas Albert Fixico was born March 18 at St. Anthony Hospital to Cassandra Barnett and Thomas A. Fixico of Oklahoma City.

He weighed 9 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21 and one half inches in length.



Fixico

His maternal grandparents are Betty and Sandy Barnett of Oklahoma City. Paternal grandparents are Nadine Fixico and Robert Fixico of Okemah.

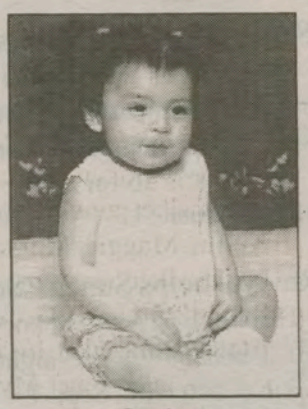
He is the great-grandson of the late Mattie Maye Francis and Emma Fixico of Tecumseh

Caleb has one sister, Christy Jayne Barnett, age eight.

Cherokee Sacks celebrated first birthday

MUSKOGEE — Cherokee Lynn Sacks celebrated her first birthday on June 8 with pizza, cake, and ice cream at her home.

She is the daughter of Eddie and Melissa Sacks.



Sacks

Sacks is the granddaughter of Charlie and Sharon Sacks of Muskogee and Wallace and Verlayne Gambler of Okemah.

Those helping her celebrate were: her sister, Melissa; aunt, Leraine; and cousins, Sarah, Robert, Coley and Kyler.

Weddings

Rabbit and Ramirez to marry

HAYWARD, CA — Sheila Rabbit, the daughter of Amos and Pauline Rabbit of Okemah, announces her upcoming marriage to Luis Ramirez Jr., son of Jose and Carmen Ramirez of Hayward.

The wedding ceremony will be conducted on Aug. 31 at St. Clements Catholic Church with a reception following at the Elk's Lodge in Fremont, Calif.

Rabbit is the granddaughter of the late Edmond and Bertha Rabbit of Morris and the late Walter and Mary Jones of Okmulgee.

The Ramirezes

Sheila is a graduate of Mt. Eden High School, Hayward. She also graduated from Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee and Chabot College in Hayward where she studied medical secretary and health information technology. She is a billing and reimbursement analyst for the department of pediatrics at Stanford University, Stanford, Calif.

Rameriz is a graduate of Tennyson High School and Sequoia Institute, Hayward, where he studied automotive industry, specializing in heating and air conditioning. He is a certified air conditioning technician for Centerville Auto in Fremont.

Thompson and Mack exchange vows

HENRYETTA — LeAnn Thompson and Felix Mack were united in marriage on May 4 at Salem Baptist Church with Rev. Richard Fixico officiating.

The Macks

Thompson is the daughter of Nora and George Thompson Jr. of Yardeka and the granddaughter of the late George and Bessie Fife Thompson and Mollie and George Frank.

Mack is the son of Alice Mack of Cromwell and the grandson of the late Francis and James Deer.

Lisa Billie of Yardeka, sister to the bride, served as maid of honor and Darrin Mack of Seminole, brother of the groom was the best man.

Serving as flower girl was the Audrie Billie of Yardeka, niece of the bride. Rylan Mack of Seminole, nephew of the groom, was the ring bearer.

The couple reside in Yardeka.

Family reunions

Tiger family

EUFAULA — A reunion for the descendents of Hattie Tiger Toney, Jeanetta Tiger Burgess, Jesse Tiger, Wilson Tiger, Miller Tiger, and Jefferson Tiger will be held at noon, Sept. 1 at Fountainhead State Park, Deep Fork Campground, Area #2.

Those attending are encouraged to bring: lawn chairs; swimsuits and towels; family photos; and a prepared food item for the meal.

For more information, call (918) 456-1217; (918) 689-3654; (918) 689-4180; or (918) 618-6050.

Francis Family

EUFAULA — The Francis family is holding their 15th annual reunion at Artussee Baptist Church on Sept. 28.

Those attending are encouraged to bring: a covered dish; past reunion snapshots; and a small gift for a gift exchange.

For more information, contact Martha Phillips at (918) 689-9743.

Community news

Koweta schedules officers' election

COWETA — Koweta Indian Community will hold its election of officers on Sept. 9.

At the July 15 monthly meeting it was decided by a vote of acclamation that the September monthly meeting will be held on Sept. 9 rather than Sept. 16 — which would have been the regular monthly meeting night, said Helen Duncan, secretary.

For more information, contact Duncan at (918) 279-1302.

California Muscogees schedule meeting

COMMERCE, Calif. — All Muscogees living and travelling through the state of California are invited to attend the next meeting of the California Muscogee (Creek) Association to be held from 11:30 a.m to 2:30 p.m., Sept. 21.

Sarricino, Johnson, and Marshall

The meeting location will be held at the Southern California Indian Center located at 6055 E. Washington Blvd.

At the last meeting three Muscogee elders were recognized for their contributions to the Indian community in Southern California. Margaret Sarricino, originally from Bartlesville Cecil Johnson, originally from Wetumka, and Ernestine Marshall, originally from Sapulpa were each awarded a trophy, plaque, and a gift certificate to their favorite restaurant. Sarricino and Marshall were both honored for their work supporting the local Indian churches and American Indian Gospel Association. Johnson was recognized for his work with the American Indian Athletic association.

Lawrence quilting circle seeks participation

LAWRENCE, Kan. — "Piece by Piece," an American Indian quilting circle at Haskell Indian Nations University, invites area students, staff, faculty, and community members to participate.

Instructor Carolyn Rolland, Cherokee, has been quilting since the age of nine. She has used her sewing skills to teach other Native American men and women the art of quilting. Those participating are: Faye Baker, Muscogee; Aletha Tom, Southern Paiute; Kepsey Fixico, Muscogee; Emma Perry, Muscogee; Marilyn ThunderHawk, Sioux; Theresa Chief Eagle, Nakota; Margaret Alexander, Muscogee; Nancy Rolland, Cherokee; Terry Rolland, Cherokee-Creek-Euchee; Sombra Forrest, Turtle Mountain Chippewa; Kristy Lawson, Cherokee; and Leah Big Horse, Choctaw-Otoe.

"Many of the women in Piece by Piece are first time quilters. You couldn't tell that by looking at their...hand-stitched needlework," said Alexander who selected the name "Piece by Piece." "We would like to invite more students, staff, faculty, and community people to participate — otherwise the skills and culture of hand-sewn quilts will be lost, leaving this part of tradition eliminated for the next generation," Alexander said.

Baby quilts made by "Piece by Piece" will be on exhibit in the Lawrence Public Library during the Lawrence Indian Art Market to be held in September.

The circle meets on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. For more information, contact Alexander at: (785) 749-8461; (785) 838-4060; or e-mail malexander@rossl.cc.haskell.edu.

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Cokv 1 Enliketv 4/k'asO 1, shaKa 4 Mvskoke Etvlwv Hiyo Rakko/zEnE yÔn aga 2002

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Josephine, Maggie, and Henry kagO O'Ta s@^lA.

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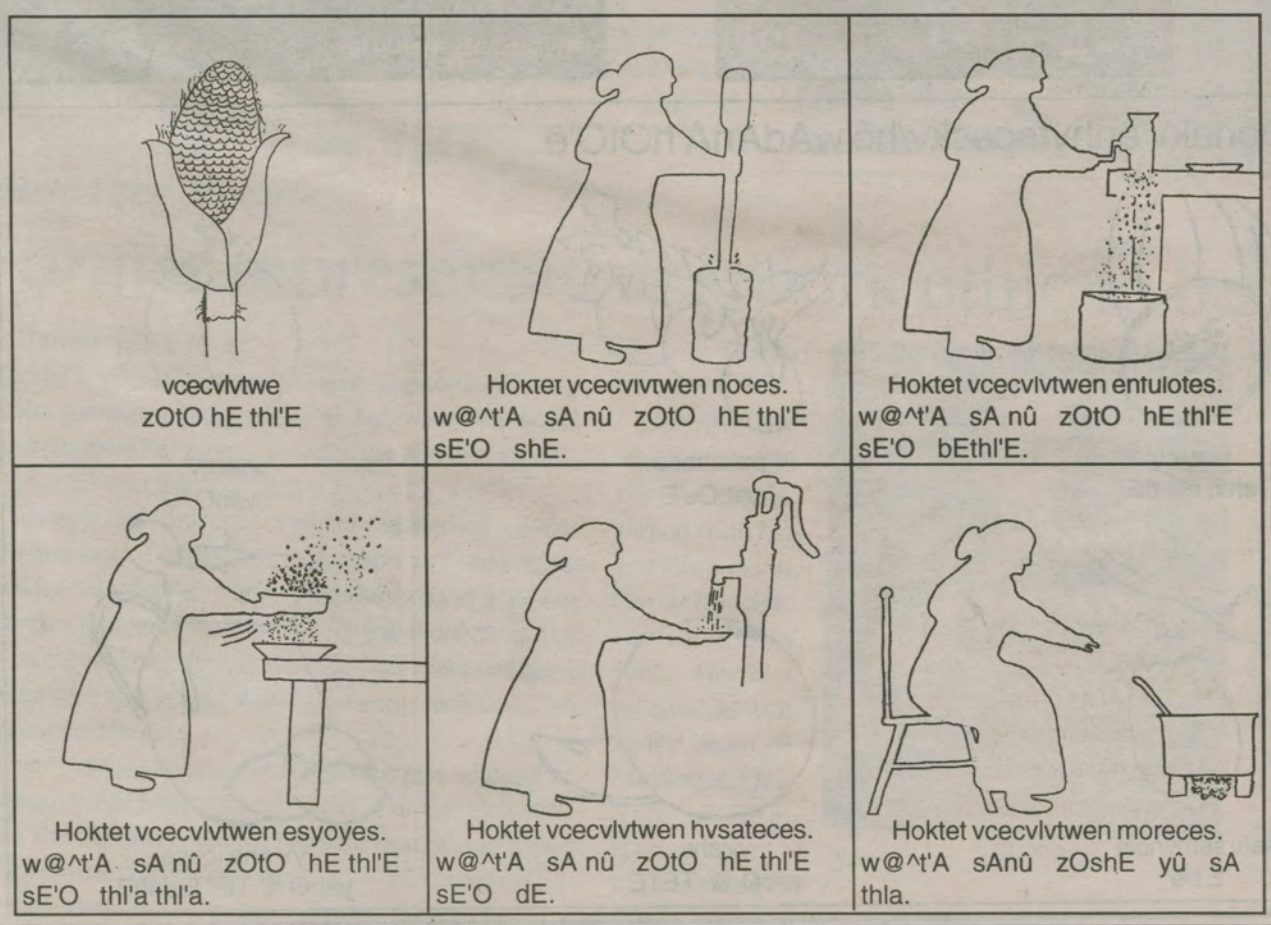
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Punvkv Emvhakv

Hvtvwolosvnke Yuce vculvke ton mvnettvlke setohkvlket punvkv semahayaket omvnks. Josephine Keith, Maggie Marsey, Henry Washington mvt mvhayvlket omen, momen Este mvnettet mvt Alan, Renee, Richard Grounds momen Linda Harjo. Atotketv mecakat hvsevkerkv enhofune hokkolen nettv hvmkvt omet Mvnten, Flate rateken, este cate punvkv atekosen esocet omaket omen heren etempunahoyetv kerrakes kometvt omvnks.

Nak punvyecakat hompetv hakvn, nesetvn, noricetvn, cuko hvsateckvn, acake okoskvn, tenahvmkvlke momen hocefhokvn, mekusapkv cuko, momen cuko rakko omvnks.

Semahakv mecakat nake mecakemaret omen omakvnks. Momen penko, tamanos mitv momen. Oren emvlostet momaken ohatalakat hvtvm meceares momen Yucvlke empunvkv kerretv yacaken omat Punvkv enwiketv likan ahuekepares. (918) 224-6481

sentvcke 20 hecvs

K'Ay'O'TEkO dEhOfa s'@Ba MuskOgEfa

Sandra Parrish and Daniel Wind (hOda) lAwAnu dÔwaT'a hE O'Ba s'@Ba MuskOgEfa dakOchEnA k'alawAk'aTa.

ne'Ônt'A kehs'OtA.

Parrish and Wind (hOda) kanOwêhlA MuskOgEfa s'@Ba gO'Ba TagO'TanE A and B.

zEnnE yÔaga thl@B'A lachUdawE nek'A êna.

Esti tomakat kerretskv?

Emily King estahake ahspaletos. 1. Stahake hvmkat, Katie Micco Manley, Oetumpka atat; 2. stahake svhokkolat, yupa sakaskvnv huerat Goldie Micco, Welty atat. Vpaltake kerreskotos; 3. Stahake svtutcenat Martha Harjochee momen Charley Micco [King] omes.

Esti tos komet sofvchcecke nomat, Stephanie Barnett mahueket onkat enhotcicepakcares, (918) 756-8700, 1 (800) 482-1979 ext. 312, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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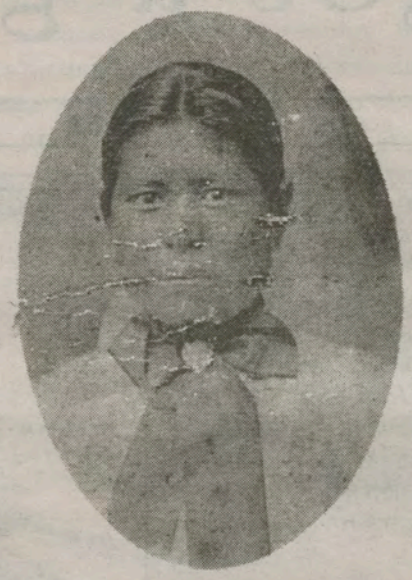

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Hiyo Rakko

Hiyo Rakko heyvt hvse hocefkvt omes, momet nettv ahenkvtkv hvyomen kerket omes, Heyvt Este Cate emarettv marvkemahe hakepe onto nomisen, enfollefv tate tot nettv hiyet hakepof nak lokcvkat ateloka hayepet, "totka tecaks cha!," hoktvlket este manette atotvket, "lvpecvks, hiyeko munken suktekvn hayvkets" maket omvkates. Kvsvpe orrof heyvt nak hericvkepat

ena svfvstvket omatet omes.

Mvskokvlke Etvlwa Punvkv Tvlemecicvlke senfvyvtkv ohkerkueckv

Nak tis punvka ofvtcvt onkat nak etv tis hocicet, pun fulletv ofvcvtis, pumvyetvtis tvlemecikv tis ceyacvk nowat tektvnkosetos. Owis tvcak svtutecenat en Flate oremahekon hecken owat tvlvmecikvn kometvtares. Owis nak atot hoyat ohvkvsvmet tvlemecikvt tares. Cehocefkv mo osatetont hvtvm cenliketv mvhonkvtkvt estvmin tonowat onayetv tos mahoketos.

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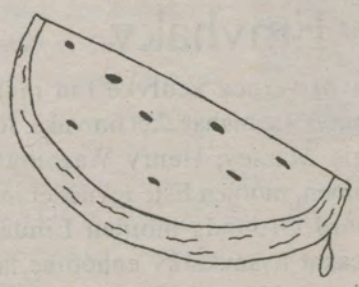

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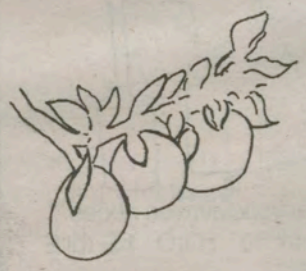

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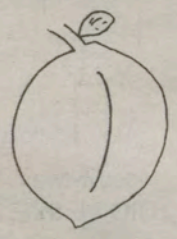

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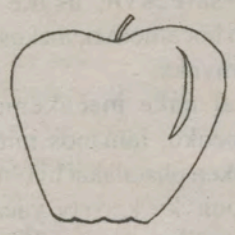

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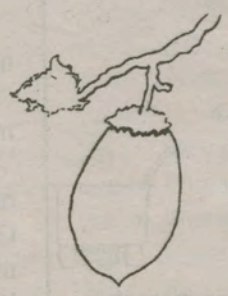

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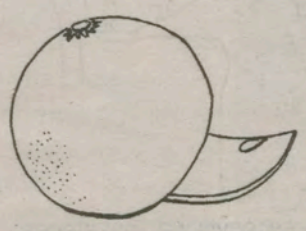

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The Muscogee Nation News

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Old Ocevpofv site continues to be threatened

WETUMPKA, Ala. — The historic site of old Ocevpofv (Hickory Ground) Tribal Town and the burials and cultural artifacts it contains continues to be threatened by the Poarch Band of Indians intent to further develop the site with construction of a $100 million casino.

Referred to as one of the most historic sites in Alabama, several historians have called the site "the last capital of the Creek Nation in the east." Surface archaeological surveys performed through the years have varied, although independent experts have consistently reported significant findings and burials.

The Atmore, Ala. based Poarch Band are the current owners of 35.8 acres of the historic Ocevpofv site. Originally part of the Mvskoke Confederacy, they are of no relation to Ocevpofv members that were forcibly removed to Indian Territory in the late 1830s. Using

see **OLD OCEVPOFV**..., page 3

New Miss Mvskoke Nation crowned

photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver crowned Jade (pronounced JAH DEE) McIntosh of Tulsa as 2002-2003 Miss Mvskoke Nation during a small ceremony held in September after the resignation of originally-crowned Glenpool citizen Rachael Barnett.

Muscogee People

Former representative's work ethic to

by Gerald Wofford

As we enter a new century, more and more Native American artists are once again being celebrated for their unique independent style, especially Native American Filmmakers. One Muscogee (Creek) filmmaker that is exploring her art and presenting it to everyone is Melody Grant.

Grant

Grant is in her third year in the master's program at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, Calif. Grant is in the University's prestigious film school and looks forward to receiving a master's degree in film next year. Grant was the recipient of last year's Muscogee Film Festival Scholarship.

Grant, who hails from Okemah and belongs to Kialegee Tribal Town, is an example of what desire and focusing on a goal can do for a person. After graduating from Okemah High School in 1992, Grant set off to the University of Oklahoma. She told her parents, Dillard and Rena, that she would major in finance. Grant and her brother, Dino, had always been creative. "He was a better overall artist than I am," said Grant, citing experiences of growing up and creating stories with her older sibling. It was during her youth that Grant saw a major motion picture that greatly influenced her future. "I saw Star Wars with my brother, and absolutely loved it," said Grant. "I knew then that I really wanted to make movies."

By the end of her freshmen year, Grant decided to make the change to acting. "I felt that I could be creative in front of the camera at first,

see **GRANT**..., page 3

Planning of Mvskoke handbook underway

OKMULGEE — A group of tribal citizens recently met to discuss the production of a Mvskoke handbook or encyclopedia that can be used as a resource for upcoming generations of Mvskoke people.

The historic meeting was held on Sept. 14 at the Creek Council House Museum and was organized and promoted by Joy Harjo, who saw the potential for the gathering of like minded citizens to effect the making of this textual

Pictured, from left to right, are: Ted Isham; Rosemary McCombs-Maxey; Tsianina Lomawaima; Annette Arkeketa; Craig Womack; George Coser; Bill Bray; Rob Trepp; Susan Miller; Joy Harjo; and Don Fixico.

see **HANDBOOK**..., page 3

Mvskoke/Yuce Ohfvtcv

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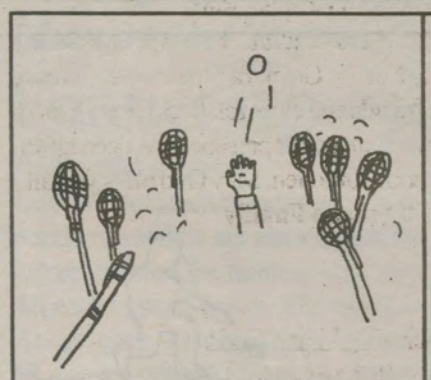

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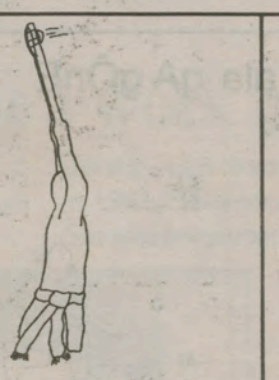

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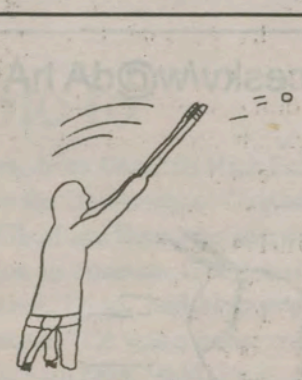

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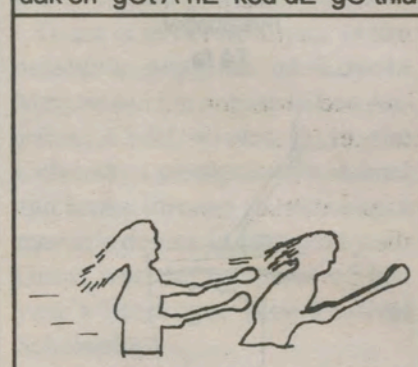

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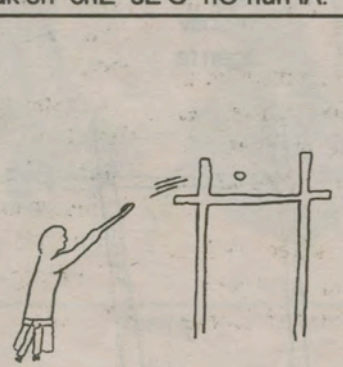

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Old Ocevpofv

continued from page 1

grant monies obtained from the U.S. National Park Service, the Poarch Band acquired the site in 1980 with the help of the Alabama Historic Commission. In an attempt to protect the site, The State of Alabama conveyed the site to the Poarch Band with a 20 year preservation covenant. In 1984, the site was placed in trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. At this time the covenant transferred to the BIA. The Poarch Band has conducted archaeological surveys, graded land, and installed utilities. In 1991, during excavation preparing the site for the construction a bingo hall, the Poarch Band unearthed human remains and two housing structures. A conflict ensued when the Alabama State Historic Commission called the band on its violation of the covenant. The unearthed remains were placed in storage until the conflict was settled. After the construction of the bingo hall, one university archaeologist reported that it was built on or near the location where independent archaeologists identified the historic period burial of a girl around 10 years of age

"All these actions were taken or approved by the Eastern Area Office of the BIA without any consultation with the people of Hickory Ground Tribal Town.... They feel a responsibility for the burials of their people which far exceeds the standards of the American culture and the responsibility for graves left behind in the east after removal is one which has been discussed by each succeeding generation of leadership," stated tribal citizen Robert Trepp in recent testimony to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

Neither Ocevpofv Mekko George Thompson nor other ceremonial ground leaders have ever been notified by the Eastern Area Office of the BIA or the Poarch Band in regard to funerary objects or human remains on site. Thompson resides little more than two miles from Ocevpofv Ceremonial Ground in a McIntosh County community where the highest concentration of Ocevpofv Tribal Town members reside. He and the ground members feel strongly about preserving the sanctity of their ancestors burials. He and other Ocevpofv leaders plan to consult with Trepp and the Inter-Tribal Sacred Land Trust Oklahoma Regional Office by October.

Trepp said that immediate action will involve looking at the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act to see if Ocevpofv members can, through its regulations, establish that their descent through communal and social relationships is just as valid as descent by blood.

"While the NAGPRA protects 'lineal descendants,' NAGPRA regulations define this as lineal descendant by blood and do not yet specifically recognize the more communal and social relationships which define our culture. While the Hickory Ground people may not be the blood descendant of this 10 year old girl, they are the descendants of her family and clan, the descendants of the people that buried her, the sole descendants of her tribal town in every political and social sense our culture knows. We have not yet been turned away on this argument, but we know it will be an uphill battle with the plain words of the regulations not being in our favor, and we have not yet found a discussion of this phrase in the legislative history of the statute which would settle the question one way or another," stated Trepp in his testimony.

Grant

continued from page 1

but I'm kind of shy and didn't feel totally comfortable," Grant said. In spite of her on-stage conflicts, Grant received a fine arts degree in drama in 1997. While still an undergraduate, she even directed a play on the college campus. Grant said that she was "probably the first Native American to direct a play at the University of Oklahoma." Even with her success in drama, Grant still wanted to find other creative outlets. It was after she graduated that she took a film theories class at OU and began to apply for entrance to several film schools throughout the country. "I must have applied at 30 film schools throughout the country," says Grant. "Only two schools, Ohio and Loyola Marymount University accepted me, so I chose LMU."

Although Grant's dream was realized and a new time in her life would begin, the era would not be without sorrow. In 1999, Grant lost her beloved brother who would passed away at the age of 22.

As Grant pursues her dream to become a full-fledged film director, she has created a film production company called Dino Productions. She has recently completed a film project entitled "Star."

"I'm more of a story teller," Grant says in describing her approach to directing, "I really like stories that are character driven. If people care about the characters, they will care about the film."

Grant's upcoming project is to make a film in the Okemah area. The story is about two Indian women who rob the local bingo casino and encounter numerous adventures in the process. Grants says the film, which will be an action-type movie will begin production in October and will be entitled "Okemah's Creek." The movie will feature Delana Studi, niece of noted Native American actor Wes Studi.

Grant says that although she enjoys directing all type of films, she will always consider productions with Native American themes. "Stories with Native themes should be told and they're not always from an Indian point of view," she says. "There are about 20,000 film students put out into the world each year," and this Muscogee person wants to be one of the few who can say they will share a stories from a true native perspective.

Handbook

continued from page 1

document.

The consensus of the group was that the production of a document that can be used as a resource by all related languages and cultures of the peoples of the Muskogean family is overdue and should commence immediately. The resources of the Mvskoke citizens assembled at the Creek Council House Museum will be utilized to effect the production of such a document as soon as reasonably possible.

A document, such as a book or a CD ROM, and possibly a web site, will be developed.

The help of other interested parties is being sought.

"This is a chance for our people to say and write about who we are instead of someone else writing about us. This document will be able to be used by all levels of people, from grade school to academicians. It is not intended to be the ultimate source product but a beginning step in allowing us to represent who we are to our children, who may not know all there is to know who they are, and to let the other people know about us," said Ted Isham, Creek Council House Museum curator.

Notice

continued from page 2

Land Covered: SE/4 SW/4 of Section 26, Township 9 North, Range 10 East, Hughes County, Oklahoma Cause CD. No. 200-204010-T

Notice of Hearing

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: To the following parties, if living; or if deceased, then their unknown heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, successors, trustees, and/or assigns; or, the unknown successors, trustees or assigns, if any, of any dissolved corporation, or the unknown successors of any party designated in any record as trustee: Liberty Exploration Co., Inc., Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Mgmt., Muskogee (Creek) Nation Realty/ Trust Services Office, Jo Ann Coonhead, and all persons, owners, producers, operators, purchasers and takers of oil and gas and all other interested persons in Hughes County, Oklahoma.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting that the Commission pool all oil and gas interests in the Gilcrease, Union Valley Lime, Cromwell Sand, and Jefferson common sources of supply for the 40-acre drilling and spacing unit consisting of the SE/4 SW/4 of Section 26, Township 9 North, Range 10 East, Hughes County, Oklahoma, adjudicating the rights and equities of the oil and gas owners thereof.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the following special relief:

(a) Designation of the Applicant, or some other party, as operator of the unit well.

(b) The Applicant shall request at the hearing that the order provide that any owner electing an alternative to participation in the well drilled thereunder shall be deemed to have relinquished all of its working interest and right to drill in the unit and common sources of supply named herein as to such well and any wells drilled subsequent thereto.

(c) The Applicant may propose that the order to issue in this cause provide a method for proposal of subsequent wells and for response to that proposal by owners who elect to participate in the initial well.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause be set before an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence and reporting to the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, Suite 114, 440 South Houston, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127, at 8:30 a.m., on the 30th day of September, 2002, and that this notice be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant and interested parties may present testimony by telephone. The cost of telephonic communication shall be paid by the person or persons requesting its use. Interested parties who wish to participate by telephone shall contact the Applicant or Applicant's attorney prior to the hearing date and provide their name and phone number.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this application, contact Ronald O. Ray, Jr., OBA #10936, Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, P.C., 320 South Boston Avenue, Suite 400, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103-3708, (918) 594-0400, Attorney for Applicant.

CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA

Denise A. Bode, Chairman
Bob Anthony, Vice-Chairman
Ed Apple, Commissioner

DONE AND PERFORMED this 16th day of August, 2002

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:
Peggy Mitchell, Secretary of the Commission

Notices

Tribal/program news

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in: Eufaula; Holdenville; Okemah; and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Oct. 16 and Nov. 6 and 20 and Dec. 4 and 18.

• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Oct. 16 and Nov. 7 and 21 and Dec. 5 ad 19.

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Oct. 17 and Nov. 7 and 21 and Dec. 5 and 19.

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Oct. 15 and Nov. 5 and 19 and Dec. 3 and 17; and

• Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

Tribe to hosting Inter-Tribal Council

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be hosting the quarterly meeting of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized tribes on Thurs. and Fri., Oct. 10 and 11.

For more information, call 1 (918) 756-8700, extension 204.

Committee to honor veterans with luncheon

OKMULGEE — The committee of Osten invites all Native American veterans to a luncheon being held on Fri., Nov. 8.

A short program will be held at 11 a.m to remember and honor all those who served their country. This will be held in lieu of a tribal observance on Nov. 11.

The luncheon will be held at the Okmulgee Nutrition Center at the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex, located at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Muscogee Film Festival dates scheduled

OKMULGEE — The Fifth Annual Muscogee Film Festival will be held on Fri., Nov. 15, and Sat., Nov. 16 in the Muscogee Nation Mound Auditorium located on the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

The Festival, which showcases Native American talent working in front and behind the screen, is the only Native American film festival in the State of Oklahoma.

The schedule of the Film Festival will be available in early October.

For more information on the Muscogee Film Festival, contact Gerald Wofford at: Muscogee Nation Communications, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447; phone, (918) 756-8700, ext. 220 or toll free — 1 (800) 482-1979; fax, (918) 758-0824; or e-mail, comm1@ocevnet.org

Festival committee seeks artwork and logo

OKMULGEE — The 2003 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee is seeking artwork and a logo for the 2003 29th annual festival. Artwork and logo will be utilized primarily for festival T-shirts and advertisement.

Artwork and logo (theme) should coincide with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation culture, heritage, or at the minimum, some aspect of Mvskoke life.

The following guidelines should be observed for artwork and logo (theme);

• limit five colors for artwork;

• artwork should be submitted on 8 1/2 by 11 copy paper;

• computer graphics will be accepted;

• colored pencil artwork will not be accepted

• Pencil or pen artwork will not be accepted;

• logo or theme will be limited to two sentences with no more than 10 words;

• deadline will be Dec. 5 at 5 p.m.; and

• the contest is limited to enrolled tribal citizens.

The winner will be selected by the festival committee and the principal chief. The festival committee reserves the right for full copyright of selection. Winning artist will receive $150 and a limited number of T-shirts.

All entries and inquires may be directed to Curtis Hicks, Deputy director of Tribal Affairs, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Hicks can be contacted at (918) 756-8700, ext. 270 or at exec4@ocevnet.org.

CHR program employee back on the job

OKMULGEE — Bonnie Jones, a Muscogee Nation Community Health Representative for Tulsa County, has returned to work.

Jones had been on leave from her duties for four months because of injuries she sustained during a car accident.

Cultural events

Child care holding cultural day

OKMULGEE — "Rafo-hakopf Afvcketa" Autumn Celebration Cultural Day will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thurs., Oct. 10.

Storytelling and demonstrations including traditional food preparation, ballstick making, fingerweaving, bowmaking, and hymn singing will be held.

The celebration will be held in the open field just south of the Muscogee Nation Mound Building located on the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

For more information, call Janet Wise at the Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care — (918) 758-1463 or 1 (800) 205-3705.

Council Oak Ceremony date scheduled

TULSA — The Creek Council Oak Ceremony will be held at 11 a.m., Sat., Oct. 12 at the Council Oak Tree park, 18th Street and South Cheyenne Avenue.

All other activities will be held at Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center located at 8611 South Union in Tulsa. Activities include: men and women's stickball game; stomp dance; and a traditional Mvskoke supper which will be served at 5 p.m.

For more information, call Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center at (918) 298-2464.

Sixth Euchee days being held in Glenpool

GLENPOOL — The Euchee Tribe of Indians will hold its sixth annual Euchee Heritage Days on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1 and 2 at Glenpool Indian Community Center.

For more information, call (918) 224-3065.

Reunions

Euchee Mission schedules reunion dates

PRESTON — Euchee Mission School Alumni are planning a reunion to be held on Oct. 25 and 26 at the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Northeast District Center.

Scheduled activities include a golf tourney on Oct. 25 and a picnic lunch on Oct. 26. Gospel singing groups and Native American artists have been invited to perform and show their artwork. Galela Walkingstick will be the honorary guest. She served as a social worker for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and made it possible for many Mvskoke and Seminole children to obtain their education by attending boarding schools.

The reunion planners are researching names of former Euchee Mission students who lost their lives during military combat. The final list of names will be given an honored place in Euchee Mission's historical collection which is housed at Sapulpa Historical Society.

The OIMC Northeast District Center is located eight miles north of Okmulgee on U.S. Highway 75 and one mile east.

For more reunion information, contact Birdcreek Phillips by writing: HC 62, Box 2250, Stidham, OK 74461; or calling (918) 689-3471. For more golf tournament information call Jess Freeman Jr. at (405) 799-7305 or John Freeman at (918) 744-8630.

Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY — Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma is holding its annual reunion for alumni and friends at the Westin Downtown Hotel on Oct. 25 through 27.

A reception and Halloween party will be held Oct. 25 with prizes being awarded for costumes. On Oct. 26 a golf scramble will begin at 9 a.m. The reunion dinner will begin at 6 p.m — dinner reservations are required — with a dance following at 8:30 p.m. Music will be by Bill Tsoodle (BB Brothers).

To receive room reservations at the Haskell reunion rate, call the Westin Downtown Hotel at 1 (800) 825-2780 by Sept. 24.

For general information, contact Flo Tanner Spotted Bear at (918) 342-6403 or e-mail flosbear@yahoo.com.

Church events and activities

Springfield church holding basketball tourney

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church is holding a men and women's basketball tournament on Sat., Oct. 19 at Okemah Middle School Gym.

The $125 entry fee is due by Wed., Oct. 16.

For more information, call: Jesse Scott at (918) 623-6697; Thomas Yarholar at (918) 623-1710; or James Smith at (405) 382-3546.

Trenton Baptist holding gospel singing

HANNA — Trenton Baptist Church is holding a gospel singing beginning at 7:30 p.m., Sat., Oct. 26.

The master of ceremonies is Al Brown of Ada.

The church is located three and one-half miles west of Hanna.

Tookparfka Baptist schedules singing

CALVIN — Tookparfka Baptist Church is holding at revival from Mon., Oct. 28 through Fri., Nov. 1 beginning at 7 nightly.

The evangelist is Richard Pickup.

Education

Citizen graduates with masters degree

CINCINNATI — Romnii Danielle Rossgraduated with a masters in business administration from the University of Cincinnati on June 7. After completing an accelerated one year program, she was awarded the Albert C. Yates scholarship to fund her graduate stuedies. Additionally Romnii received a grant through the University of Cincinnati to assist with beginning an entrepreneurial venture that will focus on increasing financial security among minorities.

Ross

She graduated from Howard University in Washington D.C. in May 2001 where she was a chemistry major and mathematics minor.

Ross plans to attend medical school where she would like to focus on improving the overall health of the native americans by concentrating on preventing and treating either diabetes or cancer.

She was born in Tulsa and belongs to Tulwathlocco Tribal Town. She is the granddaughter of Naomi Miles-Irons; she is a descendent of Richard R. Bruner, a lawyer in the historic and infamous trial of Timmie Jack.

Long graduates from high school

CARSON CITY, Nev.—Nokose Long graduated from high school in Carson City, Nevada on June 7.

He signed up for the Navy and will leave for basic training in November.

Nokose was surrounded by family members during this most important time of his life.

He is the son of Stephen Long of Phoenix, AZ and Sue Sturdevant of Carson City, NV.

Long is the grandson of Harry and Mulsey Long of Muskogee and Jackie of Carson City, NV.

Long

Accomplishments

Girls selected as members of the NASI 2002

OKMULGEE — Two outstanding athletes, Bettina Beaver and Allena Harley, were selected as members of the NASI 2002 Oklahoma Junior All State team.

Bettina's position are pitcher and first base while Allena's positions are third and first base. Both girls are versatile and can play other positions when needed. Because of their hard work and determination the girls were invited to play in a all star game on July 11 in Glenpool along with other atheletes from other teams in Oklahoma.

These girls are team members of the 14 and under girls fastpitch softball team called "Oklahoma Kryptonite". On June 22–23 the team won a dual championship in Glenpool. They are the ISA (International Softball Association) and NASI (Nation Association for Sports, Inc.) state championships of 2002. On July 23-28 the team traveled to Salina, KS to play in the American Fastpitch Association National tournament and took fifth place out of 32 teams. They were represented with a team trophy to take home.

Congratulations to these two young athletes and to their team "Oklahoma Krptonite", we wish you continued success.

Beaver and Harley

Bettina is the daughter of Tina Tarpalechee and the granddaughter of the late Henry and Elizabeth Tarpalechee of Okmulgee.

Allena is the daughter of Patsy and Alfred Harley of Okmulgee.

Both girls will playing softball for the Okmulgee Bulldogs in the upcoming years.

Tribal citizen builds his own casket

MORRIS – Tribal citizen, Richard Ellis builds his own casket. He purchased twenty one by six's of eight feet long of red cedar, and ended up using on eighteen of them.

Ellis said he always wanted to build a casket. Richard said " I took my time, especially with the angles and the measurements."

He purchased a mitre saw, and went to the internet to find plans for a casket. He found them via a California firm that advertised their products as the "Prairie Sleeper".

Their final creation, though, was not exactly what Ellis wanted for himself. There was too much wood involved and far too many screws.

He says "I like to develop everything in my head, get everything together, and then go to work."

"I had plenty of time, so I didn't get in a hurry."

The inside of the casket is lined with foam rubber covered by a colorful native American blanket design. He has even added a pillow with a Hopi design.

And, yes, he fully intends to use the casket for himself when the time comes. "I didn't ever think anything of it." he says of its building and eventual use.

Birthdays

Muskogee girl celebrates fifth birthday

HOLDENVILLE — Andye Wolfe celebrated her fifth birthdy on July 15 at Pizza Hut in Holdenville with family and friends.

She is the daughter of Arnold and Alex Michelle Meely of Muskogee.

Her maternal grandparents are Janice Bailey of Okmulgee and Edward Bailey of Holdenville. Her great-grandmother is Dorothy Pinezaddleby of Okmulgee and Lena Bailey of Holdenville.

She has one uncle, Jr. Bailey of Holdenville.

Wolfe

Boy celebrates third birthday

DUSTIN — Jonathan Fvs-wa hija Noriega celebrated his third birthday at home with his sister, Desmon on July 30.

He is the son of Samara Noriega and Lee Ross.

Maternal grandmother is Carolyn Noriega of Tulsa.

Paternal grandparents are Alice and Michael Ross of Holdenville.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Bessie Proctor Noriega and the late Andrew Fred Bulter.

Paternal great grandmother is Mary Harjo of Holdenville.

He is a member of Pvkan Tvlahassee ceremonial grounds and is descends from Alabama Quassartee. He is a member of the Raccoon Clan and the great-grandson of the Wind Clan. He is of Muscogee and Seminole descent.

Nuptials

Roulston and Pogue marry

NEWALLA — Theda D. Roulston and Christopher Pogue were married July 5 in an outdoor ceremony at the bride's parent's home.

The bride is the daughter of Joammie and Terry Walker of Newalla and the granddaughter of Alex Burgess of Spaulding, the late Joan Burgess.

Roulston and Pogue

She is the great granddaughterof Nancy Burgess and the great great granddaughter of the late Robert Alexander.

The groom is the son of Denise and Jimmy Allen of Tyler, TX and the grandson of Bill and Judy Fountain of Tyler, TX.

Rev. Dorsey Nero officiated the wedding.

The bride was given in marriage by her step-father Terry Walker. The bride wore a white gown with sequins and pearls, she wore long white gloves with blue and white baby breath in her hair.

The maid of honor was Amber Farley of South Carolina and bridesmaid was Erin Walker of Virginia Beach.

The best man was Jason Fontain of Virginia Beach, the groomsman was Leonard Hollerman.

Skylar Roulston, daughter of the bride, along with her cousin Alexis Bryan were flower girls Alice Warrenburg, of Tecumseh sang "When you walked into my life", for the bridal march.

Both mother's lite the unity candle to the parents prayer.

The groom and the bride are active in the Navy, stationed in Norfolk, VA. They plan to make a career with the navy.

Reunion

Marshall reunion

WETUMKA— The late Lewis Marshall's family will hold a reunion at 10 a.m., Oct. 19 at Wetumka Indian Baptist Church

Bring a covered dish and door prize. For more information, contact Lewis Tiger at (405) 452-3248 or contact Edwin Marshall at (918) 756-8700 ext. 375.

CHARLES ALEXANDER

OAKHURST — Funeral services for Charles Eugene Alexander were held July 17 at the Indian Fellowship Baptist Church with Rev. George Doyle officiating.

He died July 13 at the Green Park Nursing Home in Tulsa.

Charles was born March 26, 1947 to William and Mary Harjo Alexander in Claremore, Oklahoma. He was a lifelong resident of the Westside of Tulsa and attended Tulsa Public Schools.

He was a charter member of Indian Fellowship Baptist Church, and was baptized in 1957 by the Rev. William Hill.

Alexander was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Harjo Alexander.

Survivors include his: father, Rev. William Alexander of the home; three brothers, Robert Alexander of Miami, Edmond Jacob Alexander of Pawnee, and Jim Alexander of Glenpool; and one sister, Mary Sue Alexander Peak of Tulsa.

Casketbearers were: Johnny Freeman; Jesse Freeman; William Peak; Stan Peak, Jr; Will Freeman; and Junior Alexander.

Honorary casketbearers were: Stan Peak, Sr.; Tom Tiger; Eddie Alexander; and Don McIntosh.

Interment was at Floral Haven Memorial Gardens in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

LORENE BROWN

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Lorene Brown were held July 8 at the family home with Rev. Malcolm Tiger and Rev. Dennis Barnett officiating.

She was born November 6, 1927 to Martha Watashe Dunn and Ralph Dunn in Sapulpa.

Brown attended Dripping Springs and Kellyville schools and Dripping Spings Church, where she taught youth group. She later went to Oakhurst Indian Fellowship Church.

Lorene was an active member of Polecat Stomp Ground and worked with Eldercare of Sapulpa for a few years before she became ill.

She was preceded in death by: her parents, Martha and Ralph Dunn; husband, Joe Brown; sons, Larry, Billy, Ricky, and Bobby Brown; and daughters, Susie Brown and Barbara Fox.

Survivors include: her children, Louis Brown of Sapulpa, Judy Bruner of Sapulpa and Kenneth Brown of Wewoka; eleven grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren; and numerous other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers include: Jim Fife; Kenneth Watashe; Charles Watashe; Johnny Warrior; Robert Brown; and Samson Squire.

Honorary pallbearers were: Boston Rowe; Wilbur Squire; and Robbie Roland.

Interment was at the Watashe Family Cemetery.

ELOISE LONG

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Eloise Long were held July 29 at Salt Creek United Methodist Church with Rev. Joe Lowe Jr. and Rev. Gene Harjo officiating.

She passes away July 26 at Deaconess Hospital in Oklahoma City after a short illness.

Eloise was a nurse by profession and worked at various hospitals as she relocated with her husband, Rev. Long. Her last employment was with the Deaconess Hospital in Oklahoma City until her retirement eleven years ago. She was a member of the Salt Creek United Methodist Church in Holdenville. At the time of her death she was the Administrative Board Chairperson and treasurer of the United Methodist Women of Salt Creek Church. During her lifetime, she served as the District President and Conference President of the United Methodist Women, of the Oklahoma Indian Mission Conference; and other various offices of the UMW.

Preceding her in death were: her husband, Rev. David Long Sr.; her parents; one daughter, Betsy Long; one sister, Margaret Alexander Freeman; and one brother, Toby Alexander.

Survivors include: one son, Rev. David Long Jr. of Okmulgee; one daughter, Barbara Long of Oklahoma City; one granddaughter; one grandson; three great-grandchildren; one brother, Rev. William Alexander of Oakhurst; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Harjo Cemetery, south of the church.

TAYLOR PHILLIPS

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Taylor Phillips were held August 19 at Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church with Rudolph and Allen Colbert officiating.

He was born April 13, 1935 in Eufaula to Kizzie Colbert Gambler and Tecumsah Phillips.

Preceding him in death were his parents and an infant sister.

Survivors include: one sister, Mahala Francis of Okmulgee; three nieces, Wilma Jackson and Ellen Francis of Okmulgee and Imogene Mertes of Wichita, Kansas; two nephews; seven great-nephews; three great-nieces; and eleven great-great nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were: Jacob Jackson; Robert Jackson; Chris Hill; Jeff Hill; Kenneth Colbert; and Kelly Francis.

Honorary pallbearers were: Sydney Lee; Bud McCombs; Dan Coachman; and Jeremiah Lewis.

Interment was in Greenwood Cemetery in Eufaula with military honors provided by Creek Nation All Color Guards.

YAHOLA TOWNSEND

CHECOTAH — Funeral services for Yahola L. Townsend were held June 27 at the First Baptist Church with Rev. Tim Turner officiating.

Townsend

He was born on August 3, 1924 in Dallas, Texas to Marshall and Janette McIntosh Townsend.

Yahola was a 1944 Checotah High School graduate and served in the Merchant Marines form 1945 to 1947. On August 21, 1948 in Muskogee, Yahola and Betty Lucas were married. He began working for Phillips Petroleum in Borger, Texas in September 1947, and then in August 1958 they moved back to Checotah where he took pride in being a cattle and horse rancher on his mother's original allotment.

In 1990 he retired from Creek Nation after many years of service where he served as a National Council Member, Chairman of Creek Nation Housing Authority, and the Chairman of Checotah Creek Indian community where he was currently serving his second term.

Yahola was a 32nd Degree Mason and had received his fifty-year pin with the Checotah Lodge, and he had served as a deacon at the Keeler Heights Baptist Church in Borger, Texas.

He was really proud of his Indian name, his cattle and appaloosa horses and he enjoyed gardening, flowers, ranching, and serving the Indian community.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; three sisters, Sadie Townsend, Lahoma Campbell, and Louella Barnett; and nephew, Neil Campbell.

Survivors include: wife, Betty of the home; two daughters, Vicki McIntosh of Eufaula and Becki Jacobs of Checotah; two sons, Terry and Kelly Townsend both of Checotah; two sisters, Wanema Priddy of Checotah and Helena Patman of Mandeville, Louisianna; twelve grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and numerous other relatives and friends.

Casketbearers include: Michael and Lance Townsend; Matthew McCutchen; Paul McIntosh; Adam Arden; and Robby Jack.

Honorary casketbearers were: Bill Buckmaster; Raymond Carey; Jack Hefner; Kenneth Pemberton; and Wilbur Gouge.

Interment was at Greenlawn Cemetery.

PEGGY WEBB

OKLAHOMA CITY — Peggy Yarholar Webb died June 27, 2002 in Oklahoma City.

She was born in Wetumka on October 3, 1928 to Clarence D. Yarholar and Ruby Lucas.

Ms. Webb's early years were spent between Wetumka and Tulsa. Later, she moved to Oklahoma City and worked at the post office. After retiring in 1988, she returned to Sapulpa and took care of her mother. During that time she worked as a CHR for the Creek Nation. In 1995, she returned to Oklahoma City to be near her daughter and granddaughter.

Peggy was preceded in death by: her parents; son, Tommy Marshall; and sister, Rita Proctor.

Survivors include: daughter, Stephanie Younie; granddaughter; step grandson; brother, Doug Yarholar; and many special nieces and nephews.

Gratitude

We would like to extend this note of gratitude for the tremendous show of support and sympathy during our time of loss. Thank you to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Bono Nursing Home, Henryetta Hospital staff, and Simons Funeral Home, Dr. Parkhurst and all the local churches, a special thank you to Middle Creek Baptist Church. We are so thankful for our friends and close relatives for your kindness with food, flowers and your presence has been uplifting and will not be soon forgotten. May God bless you all.
Lucille Tildy Smith Sumka Family

Religion

Homecoming being held at Middle Creek

LAMAR — Middle Creek No. 1 Baptist Church is having a Homecoming Celebration — celebrating 133 years from 1869-2002. The celebration will begin on Sun., Oct. 13 at 10 a.m. with lunch being served at noon.

The speakers will be: Rev. Johnson Roberts, pastor; Rev. Joe W. Bruner; Rev. Bill Alexander; and Rev. Jimmy Alexander.

Singing in the afternoon will be provided by the Buck Family of Holdenville.

For more information, contact Fred Bruner at (405) 379-3283.

Letters to the editor

Citizen seeking old photographs

Editor:

I am looking for old photographs of my grandfather. I only met him once in my lifetime and would like to have a picture of him. His name is Sonny W. Thompson. His parents were March and Nicey Thompson from Hitchita. He was born on May 5, 1886 and died April 25, 1971. He was from Eufaula and at the time of death was married to Ethel Gladden Thompson. Any kind of information would be very appreciated. You can contact me at Rt. 1 Box 1270, Council Hill, OK 74428 or e-mail me at marthajo1127@earthlink.net.

Martha Armstrong, Council Hill

Man wants to write to elders about war years

Editor:

I am an American Indian person researching indigenous peoples during WWII. I would very much like to correspond with elders who as either adults or children lived through the war years and has memories to share. Men and women are encouraged equally to respond, as are people whose childhoods were during WWII.

If you are any American Indian who served the military, Red Cross, USO, Civil Air Patrol, civil defense, merchant marine, etc. or held a war industry job; please contact me.

I am also seeking duplicate copies of photographs of American Indian people during the war. Especially, of Indian people in uniform.

I cannot pay for photographs or for correspondence. This project is being developed into a book. Please, do not think your memories or recollections about the WWII era don't matter. Your memories are very important. I look forward to any reply.

Robert J. Clark, Collinsville, Illinois

Woman has complaint with children's services

Editor:

Eight years ago my grandmother, Bessie Noriega, adopted my younger siblings through Creek Nation Children and Family Services. And then she passed on two years ago. When she passed she had no will so Creek Nation picked them back up not even days after her funeral. My uncle and I have been trying to get them back into our home since, but we have had nothing but hardship. We have done all the paperwork and cooperated like asked to. It has been awhile since the two younger siblings have came home on visits. Their case worker calls them and tells them they can come home, but when the day comes she calls them and tells them different. Many times the children called home crying wanting to come home. What are we to tell them? We have never asked for anything from Creek Nation, but now I ask can we have our family back? I thought these people were here to help put families back together not take them apart and make children suffer. If there is anyone out there that can give us any information on this situation please contact me at P.O. Box 390053, Dustin, OK 74839.

Samara Noriega, Dustin

August District Court filings

Civil Actions:

- Chrysler Financial Corp. vs. Gervis Morphis and Debra Scroggins
- Hillcrest Health Center vs. Rosalee Marshall
- Castle Builders, Inc. vs. Tonie Hill
- Continental Credit vs. Sallie Deere
- Continental Credit vs. Leandra Feeling
- Creditors Recovery Corp. vs. Jerry Quinton
- Security Finance vs. Terry Thompson
- Service Collection Assoc. vs. Michael Fish

Protective Orders:

- Margaret Nichols vs. Jerry Nichols
- Angela Fullmore and Kevin Jack vs. Luggie Brackett
- Margaret Nichols vs. Jerry Nichols
- Ada Baldridge; Danielle and Myra Bassett vs. Daryl Bassett
- Ashley Barnett vs. Brian Creel

Criminal-misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Leslie McLaughlin
  —count 1: Physical Abuse of a Child
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Luallyn McCoy
  —count 1: Failure to Report Child Abuse
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Mitchell Keith
  —count 1: Public Intoxication
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Kimberly Washington
  —count 1: Public Intoxication

Criminal-felony:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Polly Rios
  —count 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs

Traffic:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Heidi Dixon
  —count 1: Speeding thru Travel Plaza
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. William McCrimmon
  —count 1: Disorderly Conduct
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Aaron Marlor
  —count 1: Vandalism

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 31, Issue 9, September 2002
Cause CD No. 200-204010-T
Applicant: Primary Natural Resources, Inc.
Relief Sought: Pooling

see **NOTICE**..., page 3

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

On Aug. 28 the Muscogee Nation Trade and Commerce Authority assumed operation of Danny's Conoco Station and Restaurant at the Interstate 40 Wewoka exit. The National Council appropriated funds and approved a working business plan for this site.

Thanks to the new General Manager of the Commerce Authority and his expertise, the new business was transferred with no down time. **Ed Cardenas** was recently hired to manage the tribal business interests of Creek Nation. Ed has vast experience in marketing and management experience with IBM, General Electric, Honeywell and other fortune 500 companies. Welcome to the Creek Nation, Ed. I see an upturn on the economic development status of our tribe within the next year.

On a different note, I want to remind all Creek citizens especially elders, they need to replace their old CDIB cards with tribal citizenship cards. The BIA CDIB cards are not recognized for some tribal and BIA programs such as burial assistance.

I just learned today about the passing of **George Bunny**. George was well known and respected for this teaching of our Creek language. I attended meetings occasionally at the Oklahoma City Creek Indian Center and George was always there smiling and helping serve the Creek people of the Oklahoma City area. We will all miss **George Bunny**.

Around Sept. 25, the National Elders Conference will be in Oklahoma City. Oklahoma State University requested a Creek man and woman to be nominated for elder of the year. Chief Beaver has nominated **Thomas Moore** as the man and **Betsy Factor** as the woman. Betsy is this years' (2002-2003) Senior Ms. Muscogee Nation.

Did you know that besides Oklahoma, California has the highest Creek population with 2,870 people. Next is Texas with 2,132 and the state with the fewest is Vermont having one person. If you are a Creek female age 58, there are 209 of you. These are a few of the statistics I keep in my office from our Citizenship Board and office.

Something new and very important for our tribal citizens is becoming available in September, The Creek Nation Legal Clinic. This new legal service provides free legal service to all Creek Citizens. The service is provided through the University of Tulsa College of Law and has been funded by the National Council. The toll free number is 1-800-438-5909.

Until next month, *Mvto*.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Berryhill, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

yUdjEha

sentvcke 7 mvn ates

p@'@ kOta la chu drjwa da wE'A.

yUdjEha Enu k'@t'AlA E ha hA O gÔnE Enu dA kÔn t'AlA wAnu dA sû k'@t'AlAwA ha aga nOwê.

k'ala dAkE kE g@ thla.

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k'ala dAkE O'kû nE gêha dA sû gO O thla gOthl@ nE dA sû gO Owû.

wAyUg@ nA fa hA gO thla hA EshtU hAga ga O thl@, da chE k'yow wE dA hA dA gOsh'E dE Eha dA kEkE O'Ta

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hElA a @ gOnO! ahA nedzA dE' nA dA l@!

ahA nedzA yUsh'ê ya yUdjEha Enu ne O'dE Ela dE dAnA, zAne zOga gObênA ha dA sû ne

zAga gObênA ha dA sû lA a da n@ a da n@ga dÔ wâna.

Otowoskuce

Eto ocvn arvof eto esse lane tvmahen nekehoyet, hotvle hunera fvtcv ahhotvle hvkepvt, oto apvlvtketv vlicecetomes.

Sattv eto nak yvlahet lokcosit hecvkvnkvt, hase otowoskuce nettv hakepen eto esse sasesekon hecaket omes.

Kvsappe

Otowoskuce emofvn, Cuko rakko emafacketv espoke ohrolope arakv, kvsappeckv maket fullet omhoyetomes. Momen, emunkosen onomat, eskerkvtat sekotomes, omis ohrolope hvmken hvtvm etehecakares maket etemawahetomes.

Hvsosv/Hvsaklatkv Tohkvrpe Safvcketv

Momen, nake hvnyome vfacketv momehocat, Hofonosanke tat, nake etit omatet omes mahoket omes. Hvsosv elecv fvcv tat, nake setemrapkvt, nake etemocet omaket onomat, heyvt slvpotecetv omates. Momen, Vculvke tvlkoset pohkecaket omates. Mucvnettv tat, Pohyaketv etohosickv maket omhoyetos.

Makepaks

Hvtvm yv Mvskokvlke ton Yucvlke enpunvka enkvpetenvlke okakat nake estowosetis taye maheko tos komacke nowat pukerrice pvkvcas. Cokv Tvleme Hoccicvn mvn enhocicet owepvkvcas cekicvketos. Mvskoke Etvlwv, cokv hute 580, Okmvlke, OK 74447.

Mvskokvlke Etvlwa
Punvkv Tvlemecicvlke
senfvyvtkv ohkerkueckv

Nak tis punvka ofvtcvt onkat nak etv tis hocicet pun fulletv ofvcvtis pumvyetvtis tvlemecikv tis ceyacvk nowat tektvnkosetos Owis tvcak svtutecenat en Flate oremahekon hecken owat tvlvmecikvn kometvtares Owis nak atot hoyat ohvkvsvmet tvlemecikvt tares Cehocefkv mo osatetont hvtvm cenliketv mvhonkvtkvt estvmin tonowat onayetv tos mahoketos.

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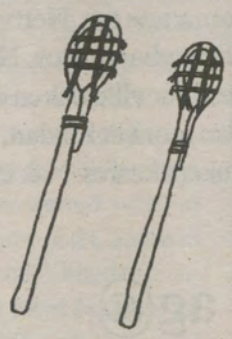

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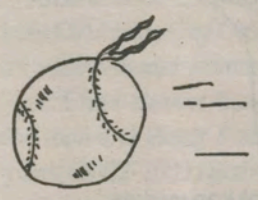

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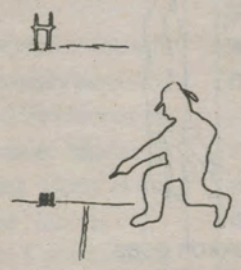

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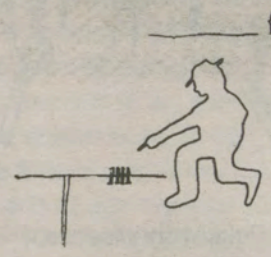

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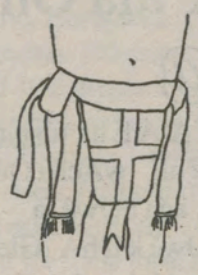

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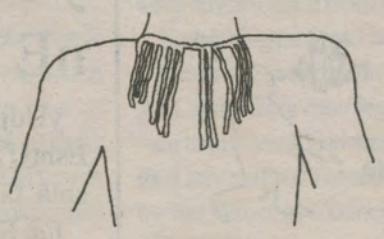

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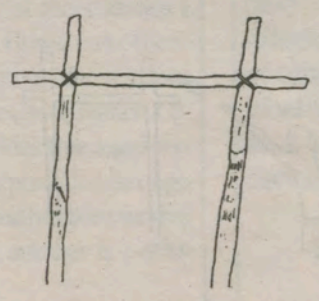

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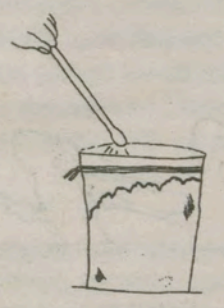

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Okmulgee, OK
74447

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Muscogee Nation Legal Services Clinic opens

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services Clinic recently announced the availability of legal services to enrolled Muscogee tribal citizens living within tribal jurisdictional boundaries.

In August members of the tribal legal services clinic advisory committee signed an agreement with University of Tulsa officials. Pictured front, left to right — A.D. Ellis; Perry Beaver; Leslie Mansfield; back — Keeper Johnson; Patrick Moore; Wilbur Gouge; and Melissa Napier

The clinic will be offering legal services in the areas of civil law including cases involving: guardianship; change of name; divorce; and child custody.

The clinic has been established as a result of a

see **LEGAL SERVICES**..., page 6

Rafo-Hakof Afvcketv

photo by Gerald Wofford

Rafo-Hakof Afvcketv was attended by over 1,100 child care, Head Start, and school-age children. The "Autumn Celebration Cultural Day" was coordinated by Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care.

Muscogee People

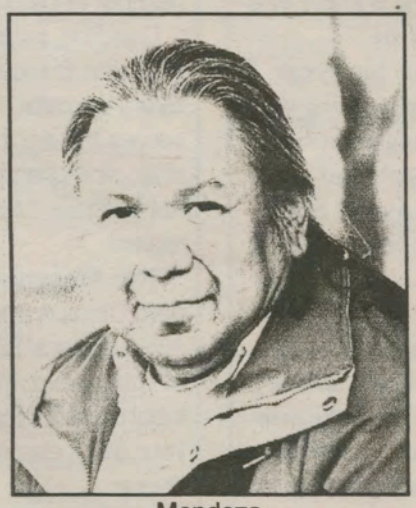
Muscogee photographer featured in exhibit

by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee artist Durango Mendoza was recently featured among many artists in a Gilcrease Museum exhibit showcasing the best in modern Native American photography.

The exhibit, entitled Native American Invitational Photography Exhibition, featured over 100 native artists who are skilled with the automatic shutter.

Mendoza can be described as a true Muscogee renaissance man. He is not only skilled in the format of photography, but in other art forms as well.



Mendoza

He received a bachelor of arts degree in English, creative writing, and attended the School of Art Institute in Chicago, Ill. He also earned a master's Degree in interdisciplinary art education from Columbia College in Chicago.

Mendoza has also exhibited sculpture and photographs at galleries in Chicago, Illinois State University, and Columbia College.

He is also a writer. His short stories have appeared in many anthologies, including Norton's "New World of Literature, First Edition," and has performed narrative pieces in Chicago schools and universities, including the Illinois Math and Science Academy.

Mendoza was born in 1945 in Claremore and raised in the Dustin area. His mother is the late Lucille Smith Mendoza Bunny. He is the grandson of William "Jim" and Bettie Phillips Smith. His stepfather was the late

see **MENDOZA**..., page 6

Muscogee Film Festival returns to Okmulgee

OKMULGEE — The Fifth Annual Muscogee Film Festival, an event of the Muscogee Nation Communications Department, is being held Nov. 15 and 16.

It will be held at the Muscogee Nation Mound Auditorium located on the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

The festival will showcase films produced by Native Americans as well as films with native themes and actors.

All proceeds from the festival benefit the Muscogee Film Scholarship Fund — an award given to an outstanding Native American student pursuing a career in the fields of film and video production.

The schedule for the film Festival is:

7 p.m., Fri., Nov. 15

- "Indian Girl," a music video directed by Salina Jayne, running time — five minutes;
- "Eagle Song," a music video directed by Joy Harjo, running time — three minutes;

see **FILM FESTIVAL**..., page 6

Letters to the editor

Woman says officials should speak language

Editor:

When I received the August edition of "The Muscogee Nation News" I was thrilled to find the article about our Nation looking into and possibly amending our present, outdated, Constitution. I want to congratulate those who are a part of the historic committee and look forward to their recommended changes.

I would assume that most of the citizens of the Muscogee Nation do not have the time to give this subject a second thought, nor would they have the time to put their thoughts into possibly making changes to our present day Constitution because of their schedules. I am writing this letter to you to give those whom subscribe to this newspaper a look at an area that could be inserted into a new and updated Constitution. The area I am referring to is the area of civil rights. Even though Article II of our Constitution gives us some rights, it is not clear on what individual right each Muscogee citizen is afforded. I would propose that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation adopt similar verbiage in the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 USCA § 1301 et seq) in order to clearly define the limits of our government and to define the important individual rights for Muscogee citizens within the Muscogee Nation boundaries.

In enacting the Indian Civil Rights Act (ICRA), Congress wished to protect and preserve individual rights of Indian peoples. It established important individual rights for persons under jurisdiction of tribal governments. It also enhanced civil liberties of individual Indians without unduly undermining Indian self-government and cultural independence. Congress also viewed the status of Indian tribes as quasi-sovereign nations, and felt that the rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and by the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution were not applicable to Indian tribes or their court and that the power of Indian tribes to govern their own affairs is limited by treaty and plenary power of Congress. This statute also restricted governmental powers of tribal governments in order to protect rights of all individuals from arbitrary and unjust actions of tribal governments.

I will first recite the language of the relative statute and then I will suggest how it should read in our Constitution.

The lead off sentence of the Constitutional rights of the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 USCA § 1302) goes as follows: "No Indian tribe in exercising powers of self-government shall..."

I propose the following: "In exercising powers of self-government the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall not..."

The following language is verbatim from the Indian Civil Rights Act and below this list I will follow-up with suggested changes to be incorporated into our new Constitution.

(1) "make or enforce any law prohibiting the free exercise of religion, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition for a redress of grievances;

(2) violate the rights of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable search and seizures, nor issue warrants, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the person or thing to be seized;

(3) subject any person for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy;

(4) compel any person in any criminal case to be a witness against himself;

(5) take any private property for a public use without just compensation;

(6) deny to any person in a criminal proceeding the right to a speedy and public trial, to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, to be confronted with the witnesses against him, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and at his own expense to have assistance of counsel for his defense;

(7) require excessive bail, impose excessive fines, inflict cruel and unusual punishments, and in no event impose for conviction of any one offense any penalty or punishment greater than imprisonment for a term of one year and a fine of $5,000 or both;

(8) deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of its laws or deprive any person of liberty or property without due process of law;

(9) pass any bill of attainder or ex post facto law; or

(10) deny to any person accused of an offense punishable by imprisonment the right, upon request, to a trial by jury of not less than six persons."

On item number six I would suggest that the Muscogee Nation "appoint the accused counsel if he cannot afford one."

On item number seven I would suggest to ad the

please see **LETTERS**..., page 6

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes was hosted last week by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

This was a great event for our Nation and our people. The five tribal chiefs attended and gave updates on their tribes' operations and successes. One main topic was the upcoming national election. Senator Inhofe has gone against the tribes' best interests and decided to support the oil and gas industry. It seems the senator and the oil industry are interested in profits for someone's pocket. The tribes' land issues were for our people and their welfare. As a citizen of the Five Tribes we cannot afford to lose any more of our land to outside interests. I urge all Muscogee citizens to register and vote for people who will recognize the needs of Indian people in Oklahoma.

Second Chief A.D. Ellis and members of the California Muscogee (Creek) Association.

Last month I had the pleasure of visiting with the Southern California Creek Citizens in Los Angeles, Calif. This is a great group of tribal citizens who get no benefits from the tribe, but are very interested in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This was a very nice meeting where I met many elders who have lived there since the 40s and 50s. Some drove from northern California and Bakersfield, Calif. to attend. A special thanks is extended to **Ken Taylor**, **Sandra Denney**, Claude, and all citizens for the hospitality and good care while I was there. *Mvto*.

For the last year, I have been working with the housing authority to get a porch and ramp for **Dwayne Scott**. Dwayne is a double amputee, blind, on dialysis three times a week, and in a wheel chair. Housing had no money, so the office of the principal chief donated $125 for concrete and the community health representatives office staff completed the work for the pad. A non-Indian businessman donated $265 worth of lumber for the porch and the housing authority furnished the labor (force account)

please see **SECOND OPINION**..., page 7

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Berryhill, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Sixth Euchee days being held in Glenpool

GLENPOOL — The Euchee Tribe of Indians will hold its sixth annual Euchee Heritage Days on Nov. 1 and 2 at Glenpool Indian Community Center.

For more information, call (918) 224-3065.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in: Eufaula; Holdenville; Okemah; and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Nov. 6 and 20 and Dec. 4 and 18.
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Nov. 7 and 21 and Dec. 5 ad 19.
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Nov. 7 and 21 and Dec. 5 and 19.
- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Nov. 5 and 19 and Dec. 3 and 17; and
- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

Committee to honor veterans with luncheon

OKMULGEE — The committee of Osten invites all Native American veterans to a luncheon being held on Nov. 8.

A short program will be held at 11 a.m to remember and honor all those who served their country. This will be held in lieu of a tribal observance on Nov. 11.

The luncheon will be held at the Okmulgee Nutrition Center at the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex, located at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Society conference being held

TULSA — The American Indian Science and Engineering Society is holding its 24th annual national conference at the Tulsa Convention Center from Nov. 7 through 10.

The conference theme is "Engineering Success: Honoring Native Traditions and Family."

The conference's goal is to encourage, cultivate, and celebrate American Indian and Alaskan Native participation in science, technology and engineering. The four-day conference will host a variety of information activities, including panel discussions and workshops for students, teachers, and professionals, as well as a career fair and exhibit hall.

Leadership, Indian entrepreneurship, natural resource management, community-based education, and research and work opportunities are some of the topics that will be presented during the conference.

A conference highlight, the career fair includes corporations, universities, and tribal, state and federal agencies, that will recruit and answer questions regarding employment and educational opportunities. Employment and educational interviews will also be conducted.

Another focal point of the conference is a traditional dinner and pow wow celebrating the cultural heritage of Native American and Alaskan Native tribes. The pow wow is open to the public and will be held at Tulsa Convention Center, Main Arena, from 4 to midnight, Nov. 9.

For more information, see the AISES web site at www.aises.org or call (505) 765-1052.

Program providing opportunities for tribal youth

OKMULGEE—The Oklahoma 4-H program and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation have a unique partnership. Oklahoma 4-H has offered youth leadership development and educational opportunities for more than 90 years, and the Muscogee Nation is supporting the opportunities that 4-H provides.

Ethan Whitehouse of Creek County checks his aim at the 4-H shooting sports trailer as Christopher and Christy Tedlock watch. The trailer was offered as a workshop during the 2002 state leadership development conference.

Ethan Whitehouse of Creek County, Tiffany Treat of Okmulgee County, and Sharee' Francis of McIntosh County are pictured with youth development educator Jamie Littlefield.

Jamie Littlefield, Muscogee Nation 4-H youth development educator, works with the tribe to provide leadership development opportunities to its youth.

"The National Council of the Creek government supports this worthwhile program to provide youth with leadership opportunities and to teach them life skills," said Littlefield.

Curtis Hicks, Muscogee Nation Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs, values the partnership between the two organizations.

"We always look for ways to create more opportunities for youth in the Nation. Anything we can bring to the tribe to offer more opportunities is important."

Its mottos of "learning by doing" promotes hands-on learning experiences. Examples of hands-on projects include: livestock; beadwork; leather craft; and horticulture.

Littlefield works with the Muscogee Nation to make sure new opportunities are available for tribal youth.

please see **4-H**..., page 7

Tribal employees commemorate date with with proclamation observance

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation employees observed the first anniversary date of terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon on Sept. 11 with the reading of a proclamation of pronounced by Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver.

Muscogee citizens Danette McIntosh, American Red Cross, and Jess Freeman Jr., Southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief, both gave accounts of their experiences at the scene of the World Trade Center.

The Tulsa Chapter, of which McIntosh is a member of, was one of the first chapters of the Red Cross to arrive in New York City, N.Y. after the terror strikes. Freeman, of Moore, is a member of the SBC Disaster Relief Oklahoma Team which stayed on the site, providing meals for workers.

Freeman

McIntosh

Head Start participates in sleep safe program

OKMULGEE — Seven of the eight counties within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation experience fire and burn injury rates higher than the state average.

The Muscogee Nation Head Start program is participating in its third year of the Sleep Safe Program sponsored by the Indian Health Service and the U.S. Fire Administration. This program's objective is to increase the number of operable smoke alarms in the homes of children enrolled in Muscogee Nation Head Start centers. The program also provides teachers, parents, and child care providers basic information on how to identify home fire safety hazards as well as how to eliminate these hazards.

House fires are a problem for all communities, but they affect American Indian/Alaska Native families at a much higher rate than the rest of the nation.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, human error and equipment problems associated with cooking, heating, and the equipment that provides electrical service are among the leading causes of home fires. People can reduce these risks by recognizing how they start and taking steps to avoid them.

Kitchen safety — cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home fire injuries. Three of every 10 fires start in the kitchen. To avoid cooking fires, food should not be left cooking on the stove top unattended. Close attention should be paid to food cooking in the oven. Cooking areas should be kept clean and clear of pot holders, towels, rags, drapes, and food packaging.

please see **NOTICES**..., page 7

Education

Bland graduates from San Gorgonio High School

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — Larry Wayne Bland [Pakoska] Jr. recently graduated from San Gorgonio High School.

Bland

Among activities he was involved in were: varsity football, two years; varsity wrestling, two years. Among his awards were coaches award, two years, and Who's Who Among American High School Students, three years. He also earned the California Governor's Scholarship Award for outstanding SAT scores.

Bland is the son of Larry and Evelyn Bland of Highland, Calif. He is the granson of Betty Barnett Bland of San Pedro, Calif. and Virginia and the late Leo G. Bland, Glenpool.

He is attending San Bernardino Valley College and studying chiropractic medicine.

Citizen studies music in Austria

FREMONT, OHIO — After studying vocal performance abroad, Kirsten Kunkle has returned to the U.S. to pursue a masters of voice performance at the University of Michigan.

Kunkle

Kunkle completed her undergraduate studies at Bowling Green State University and graduated in 2002 with a major in vocal performance and minors in Italian and German. During her final year of college she attended the University of Salzburg in Austria, studying vocal performance at the Mozarteum, a world-renowned music academy.

She started taking dance lessons at age two, performed in acting troupes when she was nine, and started taking singing lessons when she was 12, but it wasn't until she was about 14 that she knew she wanted to sing opera arias.

After graduation, Kunkle plans to sing professionally and hopes to someday teach at the university level. She also plans to get her doctorate degree.

Through college, which Kunkle finished in three years, she was in the honor's program and on the dean's list. She was also a member of various organizations, including Music Ambassadors, Women's Chorus, University Choral Society and the Bowling Green Opera Theater.

Kunkle has also been a member of the Toledo Opera Chorus for the past five years and a member and soloist of the Motet Choir under the direction of Sam Szor at the First Congregational Church in Toledo, Ohio.

Kunkle is the daughter of Thomas and Toni Kunkle of Freemont, Ohio. She is the great-granddaughter of the late H.S. and Eloise Posey Rowley of Muscogee.

Couple celebrates anniversary at Snake Creek No. 1 Baptist Church

BIXBY — George and Nora Doyle celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary with a party at Snake Creek No. 1 Baptist Church on Aug. 28.

The couple were married on Aug. 29, 1950 in Tulsa by Simon Severs.

They time at which they first met predates his and her memories because they were born and raised around one mile from each other. "Anytime his mother would [borrow] a truck to go to other churches, she'd always save me a seat by her because we didn't have transportation," said Mrs. Doyle.

Mr. Doyle said faith is a necessity requirement for having a successful marriage.

"For a successful marriage it takes determination and to understand each other and to be a servant of the Lord," he said.

The couple enjoys church work and visiting the sick. Mrs. Doyle is a member of High Spring Baptist Church in Okemah. Mr. Doyle is the pastor, as well as member, of Bemo Baptist Church in Bixby. He also served as pastor at Snake Creek for 24 years and at Indian Fellowship Baptist Church for 14 years.

The Doyles

Mr. and Mrs. Doyle both belong to Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and the Deer and Wind Clans repectively.

They have two children, James Doyle of Coweta and Verbena Sue Coelter of Portland, Ore. They have seven grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

Accomplishments

Tulsa citizens open 3D animation studio in Tulsa

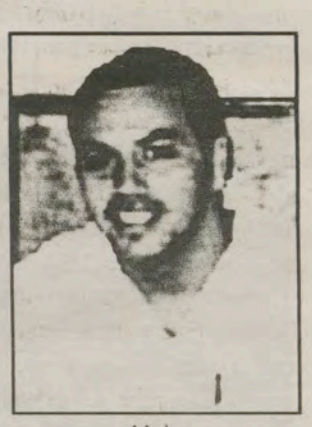
TULSA — Two tribal citizens have recently opened a new high tech computer company in Tulsa.

The company, Magical Animation Studio, Inc., is located at 403 S. Cheyenne, Suite 200 and is owned and operated by Ken Ellis and his son, Mark. The company specializes in architectural animation as well as special effects for advertising agencies and product design for manufacturing and engineering companys. The company handles all types of architectural renderings of buildings or industrial sites prior to their construction. The company utilizes the latest computer software and high speed rendering as well as video, cd/dvd-rom multimedia design with digital sound editing, character animation, and webcommercials. *Magical Animation Studio* can be viewed on the internet at magicalanimationstudio.com.

K. Ellis was born at Alabama Baptist Church grounds in Weleetka and is the son of Ida Simmons, Hanna. M. Ellis is the son of Joan Lacy Ellis of Leach.

Muscogee doctor being featured on TV series

OKLAHOMA CITY — Brent O. Hale Jr., M.D., will be featured in the television series "Life in the ER" on The Learning Channel at 7 p.m., Nov 11.



Hale

The series has covered emergency room physicians in major cities in the U.S. It recently filmed emergency room physicians at the University of Oklahoma Medical Center, formerly University Hospital. The series focuses on the fast- paced action in the emergency room, the demands on physicians and staff, and its effect on their families also. The series also focuses on how the doctors wind down after working consecutive 12 hour a day shifts.

Eufaula boys celebrate birthday with Burger King party

MUSKOGEE — Nathaniel "Big Boy" and Anthony "Little Boy" Friday celebrated their second and third birthdays with a birthday party at Burger King.

N. Friday

The boys belong to the Wotko Clan and Eufaulace Tribal Town. They are the sons of Sarge Friday of Eufaula and Daneta Kaulay of Checotah.

Their paternal grandparents are Chebon and Cheryl Gouge of Eufaula and Mike Friday of Wyoming.

Their maternal grandparents are Mary and Ira Kaulay Jr. of Checotah.

They are of Muscogee, Kiowa, and Arapaho descent.

A. Friday

Children attending the Friday boys' party were, front row: Christian Kaulay; Nathaniel Friday; Eco Barnett; Antonio Fourkiller; Jessica Fourkiller; and Madison Kaulay — back row: Cody Fourkiller; Mary Kaulay; Anthony Friday; Joshua Kaulay; Noah Kaulay; Jordan Kaulay; and Cory Fourkiller.

Elders awarded for outstanding service to tribe

OKLAHOMA CITY — Two Muscogee elders received the "Outstanding Service Award" at the fourth annual American Indian Elders Conference held in September.

Thomas Moore and Betsy Factor were nominated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for having shown outstanding service or achievement for the tribe.

please see **SOCIETY**..., page 7

LEAH ASBURY

WELEETKA — Funeral services for Leah Asbury were held Aug. 31 at the First Assembly of God with Rev. A.J. Tiger officiating.

She was born May 7, 1929 in Weleetka to Eli and Martha Thompson Fish.

Asbury was a member of Sand Creek and Silver Springs Baptist churches. She enjoyed being outdoors and spending time with her family and grandchildren. She was a member of Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town Governing Committee.

She was preceded in death by: a son, Allen Asbury; daughter, Agnes Asbury; granddaughter, Dawn Perkins; her parents; two brothers, Joe Fish and Bernice Fish; and a sister, Lizzie Buckley.

She is survived by: her husband, Johnny Asbury of the home; son, Austin of Dunkirk, Ind.; daughters, Augustine Asbury of Henryetta and Allison Asbury Alexander of Okmulgee; brother, Elmer Fish of Weleetka; two sisters, Rose Manley of Weleetka and Mary Lou Basquez of Wetumka; five grandchildren; two great-grandsons; and a many other relatives and friends.

Casketbearers were: Heath Mosco; David Summers; Amon Yargee; Gerald Sanford; Tarpie Yargee; and Bigcloud Lewis. Honorary casketbearers were her nephews.

Interment was at the Fish Family Cemetery in Weleetka.

GEORGE BUNNY JR.

DUSTIN — Funeral services for George Bunny Jr. were held Sept. 5 at Thlewarle Baptist Church with Rev. Allison Phillips officiating.

He was born July 19, 1929 in Dustin to George and Sallie Benson Bunny.

He spent his childhood days in Dustin and had lived in Oklahoma City for the past 40 years.

Bunny

He attended Euchee Boarding School in Sapulpa, Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan., and Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee.

He served in the U.S. Army Airborne from 1949 to 1950. He was stationed at Camp Roberts, Calif. and Fort Benning, Ga. He worked in a wide variety of jobs in the manufacturing sector in Lawrence, Kan., Chicago, Ill., Dallas, Texas., Stockton, Calif., and Oklahoma City through the years.

He was a member of the Thlewarle Baptist Church, where he served as head deacon. He spoke, read, and wrote his tribal language fluently. He taught the Mvskoke (Creek) language on university campuses, Helena Correctional Center, and local communities.

Bunny was preceded in death by: his parents; two sisters, Irene Bunny Odom and Martha Bunny; and four brothers, James, Gaines, Abraham, and Clarence Bunny.

He is survived by: his brother, Newman Bunny of Bristow; sister, Lorene Bunny Baker of Stillwater; and several nieces, nephews, and friends.

Pallbearers were: Curtis Scott; Steve Randall; Sidney Lee; John Tulsa; Lewis Tulsa; and Alfred Wise. Honorary pallbearers were: Barton Looney; Jacob Lewis; Sam Whitlow; and Jerry Sumka.

Interment was at the Thlewarle Church Cemetery.

ZANA GOODE

TULSA — Funeral services for Zana Wilson Goode were held Sept. 17 at Morning Star Baptist Church with Dr. T. Oscar Chappelle Jr. officiating.

She was born April 7, 1899 in Wagoner to Julius and Mary Wilson. On Aug. 10, 1917 she married Erick Goode in Depew. Together, they had 11 children — seven boys and four girls. She was a long time affiliate of Jehovah Witness.

She was preceded in death by: her husband and five sons, New Deal, Walter, Robert, James, and Leonard.

She is survived by: two sons and four daughters, Bethel Goode, Amie J. Harris, and Emma Lee Brown of Tulsa, Foster Goode of Oklahoma City, Mamie West, and Bee Ethel Garrett of Saginaw, Mich.

Pallbearers were her grandsons. Flower bearers were her granddaughters.

Interment was at Depew Memorial Cemetery.

REV. REUBEN KINNEY

WEWOKA — Funeral services for Rev. Reuben Kinney were held Sept. 3 at Wewoka Baptist Church with Revs. Mitchell Taylor and Bill Hobia officiating.

Kinney died Aug. 30 at Baptist Hospital in Oklahoma City at the age of 44. He was born Oct. 2, 1957 in Wewoka to Rev. Wilson and Jennie Chupco Kinney.

He was raised in Wewoka and graduated from Wewoka High School in 1975. He attended University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma Baptist University, and Seminole State College. He began his ministry in 1977 as a student missionary. He worked in the Indian Baptist mission field in Oklahoma, Montana, and Oregon. Kinney also worked in other student missions.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; two brothers, Robert and C.W. Kinney; and two sisters, Julia Lewis and Wilma Kinney.

Survivors include: four brothers, Jerry Baker of Lawrence, Kan., Woodrow Kinney of Shawnee, George Kinney of Wewoka, and Curtis Kinney of Muskogee; and three sisters, Agnes Kinney of Oklahoma City, Augusta Smith of Tahlequah, and Martha Walker of Okemah.

Interment was at the Kinney Family Cemetery.

LEANN MACK

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for LeAnn Thompson Mack were held Sept. 18 at the Thompson family homeplace with ceremonial ground speakers officiating.

She was born to George and Nora Frank Thompson on June 29, 1979.

Mack attended Ryal Elementary School and graduated from Graham High School. She had lived in Henryetta for 21 years and had resided in Tulsa for two years.

She married Felix Mack on May 4, 2002 in Salem Community.

Mack

Mack was a member of Ocevpofv (Hickory Ground) Etvlwv where, as a leader, she contributed to the ceremonies. She enjoyed cooking and sewing.

She was preceded in death by her grandmother and maternal grandparents.

She is survived by: her husband of the home; parents; mother-in-law, Alice Mack of Cromwell; two sisters, Lisa Billie of the home and Patricia Larzoni of Kissimi, Fla.; niece, Audrie Billie; nephew, Thomas "Sonny Boy" Mack; and many other relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Harjo Family Cemetery.

ERNEST MARSHALL

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Ernest "Chebon" Marshall were held Sept. 14 at Tuskegee Baptist Church with Revs. Fred Lindsey and Allan Colbert officiating.

He and a twin sister, Ernestine, were born Aug. 18, 1937 to Tucker Marshall and Minnie Watson Marshall King.

He spent his early years near Raiford. After graduating from Mason High School he enlisted in the Army and served in Germany and at Fort Knox for three years. Upon completion of his service he attended Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee.

On Jan. 23, 1968, he married Riletta Smith. He worked at the Muskogee Area Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in procurement. He retired in May 1995 after a career totaling 35 years.

Before retiring he entered the ministry, pastoring at Montesoma Baptist Church, then at Tuskegee Baptist Church until his death. He served as treasurer of the Muskogee-Seminole-Witchita Baptist Association for 27 years and on the Muskogee County Rural Water District Six Board as president for two years.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; stepfather, Tommie King; sisters, Ernestine Edwards and Mable Dick; brothers, Sandy, Ben, and Joe Marshall; half-brothers, Sam, Silas, and Howard Marshall; and a half-sister, Pauline Barmaby.

Survivors include: his wife, of the home; daughters, Ava Dawn and Tammy Lynn Marshall Huitt; three grandchildren; sisters, Leona Colbert of Eufaula and Helen Dionee of Los Angeles, Calif.; a stepsister, Edna Mae Hand; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Rick Colbert; Gary Colbert; Dr. Charles Colbert; Roger Colbert; Kenny Edwards; Chet Edwards; and Aaron Smith. Honorary pallbearers were: Earl King; Dr. James King; Buddy King; Ed Lowery; Harvey Williams; Roley McIntosh; and Doug Hawkins.

Interment was at Greenwood Cemetery in Eufaula with the Mvskoke Honor Guard participating.

Memorials may be made to Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church Building Fund at P.O. Box 672, Eufaula, OK 74432.

REV. GEORGE MILLER

BROKEN ARROW — Funeral services for Rev. George A. Miller were held Aug. 16 at Broken Arrow Indian United Methodist Church with Revs. Joe Lowe Jr., David Wilson, and Don Jones officiating.

Miller was born Dec. 9, 1934 in Coweta to Lewis and Lizzie Lovett Miller. He was educated in the Coweta School system and graduated from Coweta High School in 1953. In 1983 he graduated from Southern Methodist University Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, Texas.

On April 23, 1981 he and Lucille Bible were united in marriage by Rev. Thomas Long at Broken Arrow Indian United Methodist Church.

He was a minister for 34 years. Rev. Lee Chupco presented him his exhortation license in 1958. He was ordained as a deacon in 1970 and as an elder in 1972. Miller retired from the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of the United Methodist Church in 2002 at the annual convention held in Antlers. He pastored the following churches: Big Cussetah; Salt Creek; Thlopthlocco; Mutteloke; Broken Arrow; Newtown; and Ponca Mission. He served as district superintendent of the northern district.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; one son, David Wolfe Bible; seven brothers; and two sisters.

He is survived by: his wife of the home; one daughter, Johnnie Duggins of Coweta; one sister, Marie Crittenden of

see **OBITUARY**..., page 7

Legal services

continued from page 1

partnership between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and The University of Tulsa College of Law. It will operate as part of The University of Tulsa Boesche Legal Clinic. Muscogee National Council members and university professors were instrumental in the creation of this first of-a-kind legal venture partnership.

Muscogee citizen Montie Deer is the clinic's supervising attorney and instructor. The clinic currently accepts clients on an appointment basis. It will also be accepting walk-ins during Saturdays in which regular sessions of the Muscogee National Council are being held. Walk-in times and dates through the end of the year are 8:30 to noon: Oct. 26; Nov. 16; and Dec. 21.

"I have watched people of this Nation — for 15 years — do without legal services. We will be changing that at the Creek Nation level from this day forward," Muscogee District Court Judge Patrick Moore said at a recent press conference announcing the availability of legal services.

To apply for legal services, call: (918) 631-5799 or 1(800) 438-5909.

Mendoza

continued from page 1

James Bunny.

"As a writer and artist I sometimes see and feel things that only a photograph can express," says Mendoza. "The selected reality of a photographic image suggests its own narrative, meaning, and depth." Mendoza's "Altar" — a photograph of his mother's living room wall — consists of a picture of her only brother who died at age 10 of measles, her husband as a World War II soldier, and an artist's depiction of Christ.

Mendoza is proud to have been a part of the Native American Invitational Photography Exhibition and plans to continue his work in photography as well as other artistic forms. He also produces greeting cards and many of his photographic works through his Red Earth Art Works imprint.

Mendoza serves is employed as a public service administrator for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. He and his family have lived in Urbana, Ill. since 1994. Mendoza belongs to the Bird Clan. He and his wife, Jean, have four children — Robert; Aimee; William; and Tom.

Film Festival

continued from page 1

• "The Homecoming of Jimmy Whitecloud," directed by Paul Winters, running time — 100 minutes; and
• "The Business of Fancydancing," directed by Sherman Alexie, running time — 103 minutes;

2 p.m., Sat., Nov. 16

• "Rocks with Wings," directed by Rick Derby, running time — 113 minutes;
• "The Vanishing American," directed by George B. Seitz, running time — 109 minutes;
• "The Great American Foot Race," directed by Dan Bigby, running time — 56 minutes; and
• "Eagle Song," a music video directed by Joy Harjo, running time — three minutes;

Admission for each session is $5. Children ages 10 and under will be admitted at no cost, although the films are aimed at mature audiences. Traditional Mvskoke fare, prepared by Melba Williams of Glenpool, will be served after Saturday's screenings.

For more information, call (918) 756-8700, ext. 220.

Letters

continued from page 2

word "or" after "and." It should read as follows "...and or a fine of $5,000, or both."

In closing, I would appeal to every citizen of the Muscogee Nation to contact his or her respective Council representative and give their thoughts on any or all proposed changes to our outdated Constitution. I would also welcome any representative to discuss the proposed changes with me.

Richard E. "Rick" Wilde, Tulsa

Woman says officials should speak language

Editor:

Are you aware that the chief and second chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation do not speak their native tongue.

Three of the five chief's of the Five Civilized tribes don't either — so we are not alone. I am bringing this to light as most of National Council Representatives don't either.

I find it hard to believe you can run for office and represent your tribe and not speak you own language. This might be 2002, but there are a significant amount of Mvskoke people who still speak only the Mvskoke language.

Speaking the language should be a requirement to hold office in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. So, when elections come around, please check out the candidates. They are always saying to 'remember your roots' and 'where you come from.' They should speak and understand the Mvskoke language to hold office.

Jerri Harjo, Tulsa

Legal Notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 31, Issue 10, October 2002
Cause CD No. 200-204010-T

Applicant: Primary Natural Resources, Inc.
Relief Sought: Pooling
Land Covered: SE/4 SW/4 of Section 26, Township 9 North, Range 10 East, Hughes County, Oklahoma Cause CD. No. 200-204010-T

Notice of Hearing

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: To the following parties, if living; or if deceased, then their unknown heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, successors, trustees, and/or assigns; or, the unknown successors, trustees or assigns, if any, of any dissolved corporation, or the unknown successors of any party designated in any record as trustee: Liberty Exploration Co., Inc., Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management., Muskogee (Creek) Nation Realty/Trust Services Office, Jo Ann Coonhead, and all persons, owners, producers, operators, purchasers and takers of oil and gas and all other interested persons in Hughes County, Oklahoma.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting that the Commission pool all oil and gas interests in the Gilcrease, Union Valley Lime, Cromwell Sand, and Jefferson common sources of supply for the 40-acre drilling and spacing unit consisting of the SE/4 SW/4 of Section 26, Township 9 North, Range 10 East, Hughes County, Oklahoma, adjudicating the rights and equities of the oil and gas owners thereof.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the following special relief:

(a) Designation of the Applicant, or some other party, as operator of the unit well.

(b) The Applicant shall request at the hearing that the order provide that any owner electing an alternative to participation in the well drilled thereunder shall be deemed to have relinquished all of its working interest and right to drill in the unit and common sources of supply named herein as to such well and any wells drilled subsequent thereto.

(c) The Applicant may propose that the order to issue in this cause provide a method for proposal of subsequent wells and for response to that proposal by owners who elect to participate in the initial well.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause be set before an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence and reporting to the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, Suite 114, 440 South Houston, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127, at 8:30 a.m., on the 4th day of November, 2002, and that this notice be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant and interested parties may present testimony by telephone. The cost of telephonic communication shall be paid by the person or persons requesting its use. Interested parties who wish to participate by telephone shall contact the Applicant or Applicant's attorney prior to the hearing date and provide their name and phone number.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this application, contact Ronald O. Ray, Jr., OBA #10936, Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, P.C., 320 South Boston Avenue, Suite 400, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103-3708, (918) 594-0400, Attorney for Applicant.

CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA
Denise A. Bode, Chairman
Bob Anthony, Vice-Chairman
Ed Apple, Commissioner

DONE AND PERFORMED this 16th day of August, 2002

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:
Peggy Mitchell, Secretary of the Commission

September District Court filings

Protective Orders:

• Pauline Jack vs. Billy Hart
• Ashley Barnett vs. Brian Creel
• Patricia Davis vs. Melvin Bridgers Jr.
• Natalie Wilson vs. Billy Wilson

Criminal-misdemeanor:

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Melanie Lottinville
— count 1: Public Intoxication
— count 2: Driving in Violation of an Order of the Court

Traffic:

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Amber D. Woods
— count 1: Driving Under Suspension
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Phillip Whinery

please see **FILINGS**..., page 7

Editor's note: Reports derived from official Muscogee National Council regular, quarterly, special, and extraordinary meeting minutes are published upon availability. At press time, official minutes were not available for: May 4 quarterly session; May 18 regular session*; June 29 regular session; July 27 quarterly session; Aug. 8 extraordinary session; Aug. 24 regular session; Sept. 24 special session; and Sept. 28 regular session. *May 4 quarterly session minutes are not available because of its relevance to the pending Muscogee Nation District Court case Sam Alexander vs. Wilbur Gouge and Robert Hufft.

Second Opinion

continued from page 2

to build it. I am not naming any one person, but our priorities and programs are not right when we have to go to outside people. There is no one I know who was more needy than this man for a porch and ramp. Thank you Mike Miller and tribal community health representatives for your concern.

Another strange thing happened last month and it was also a very good thing for a tribal citizen in need. A non-tribal person was in my office visiting and as he was leaving, he noticed a woman crying in our waiting area. I asked her if I could help and she said she had applied to all our programs and was turned down. Her daughter was in the hospital and the bills were overdue. Eviction was eminent. This non-Indian gentleman asked her what she needed and she said $600 to pay everything. He pulled out his wallet and handed her six one hundred dollar bills and walked out the door, but not before he was thankfully hugged by the tearful lady. My secretary, Johnnie, and I had tears in our eyes for this guardian angel and for the family. Thank you so much Wayne, because you are a special person.

I missed the Council Oak Tree Ceremony this year because I was on tribal business across town at the same time. Later in the day, at Tulsa Creek Indian Community, I was able to visit with many people who participated in the all day event.

Until next month — to all citizens — good health and happiness. Mvto.

Filings

continued from page 6

— count 1: no vehicle insurance
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Phillip Whinery
— count 1: reckless driving
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Phillip Whinery
— count 1: no drivers license

Divorce:
• Stacey Joseph vs. Hugh Joseph

4-H

continued from page 3

"We are expanding the program base to be more than livestock projects. Next year we hope to offer projects in fashion and fabrics and other areas to keep appealing to youth," said Littlefield.

Promoting the 4-H program keeps Littlefield busy. Fostering a positive relationship between the Muscogee Nation and 4-H is important. She finds herself learning more about tribal history and culture to gain support for the 4-H program.

"During the past year, information about 4-H has really been getting out to schools and we have been connecting with more youth; 4-H teaches responsibility and increases their self-esteem," said Hicks.

Littlefield has seen many success stories. One example is Sharee' Francis. The 12 year old Eufaula girl has accomplished many things in her first year in 4-H.

Besides showing the "tamest pig in the county," Francis set several other 4-H goals. She accomplished the first goal of becoming her 4-H club president and has set her sights on becoming a state 4-H ambassador. "I tell others that 4-H is a lot of fun," said Francis. "You can do a lot of things and meet a lot of people. I really enjoy interacting with others."

Littlefield's office is located in the human development building on the tribal capital complex. For more information about the Muscogee Nation 4-H program, call Littlefield at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 610.

Notices

continued from page 3

Heating devices — heating fires are the second leading cause of home fires. During the months of December, January and February, heating is the leading cause of home fires. Most heating fires involve space heaters. Installing space heaters too close to combustibles or placing combustibles too close to heaters are major causes of fires. Space heaters should be at least three feet away from walls, furniture, and anything that can burn. Portables space heaters should be turned off before going to sleep or when leaving the room for an extended period of time. A sturdy screen should be kept in front of fireplaces to prevent sparks from flying into the room. Fires from wood burning equipment are often caused by buildup of creosote. Chimneys and heating systems should also be checked annually.

Society

continued from page 4

Births

Kendall Bailey McPerryman

ROCKFALLS, Ill. — Kendall Bailey McPerryman was born July 30 to Bruce and Ginny McPerryman on July 30.

He weighed 8 pounds, 10 and one half ounces and was 23 inches in length.

His paternal grandmother is Jeanette Horse of Bristow. Maternal grandparents are Vicky McMillen of Rock Falls, Ill. and the late Charles Bailey of Paden.

His paternal great-grandparents are JoAnn and Arthur Powell of Bristow. His maternal great-grandparents are Charles and Virginia McClain of Welty and Albert and Edna Bailey of Paden.

He has two siblings, Cierra and Arran.

Lynsie Hokose Wilson

TULSA — Lynsie Hokose Wilson was born July 3 at Hillcrest Medical Center Malinda "Mindy" Wilson.

She weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 19 and one half inches in length.

She belongs to the Bird Clan and Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground. Her maternal grandparents are Jimmie Wilson of Hectorville and Tom Deere of Okmulgee and the late Susan Skeeter Deere. Great-grandparents are the late Nicey and Soloman Wilson and the late Sadie and Jimmie Skeeter.

Wilson

Nuptials

Bigpond and Russell exchange vows

HECTORVILLE — Tammy Bigpond and Michael Russell were united in marriage on June 1 at Morning Star Evangelistic Center with Dr. Eddie Mitchell Officiating.

She is the daughter of Rev. Negiel and Jan Bigpond of Hectorville. She is the granddaughter of the late Rev. Roy Bigpond and Lilly Cox and the late Jimmy Tiger and Edna Driscoll. He is the son of Lyle and Esther Russell of Albuquerque, N.M.

Tonya Bigpond, twin sister to the bride, served as maid of honor and Dennis Groves, friend of the groom, was the best man.

Serving as flower girl was Kyla Cook, niece of the groom, and Caleb Bigpond, nephew of the bride, was the ring bearer.

The couple reside in Jenks.

The Russells

Obituaries

continued from page 5

Coweta; one grandchild; three God children; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers include: Lawrence Miller; Eugene Miller; Lewis Perryman; Major McHenry; James Harley; and Mike Berryhill. Honorary pallbearers were: Chuck McHenry; Henry Perryman; Eugene Perryman; Robert Miller; Lewis Haynes; and Dean Perryman.

Interment was at Vernon Cemetery.

STEPHEN MINYARD

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Stephen Wade Minyard were held Aug. 21 at Salem Baptist Church with Rev. Terry Pittman officiating.

He was born Aug. 9, 1961 to Jerry Wade and Jerri Ann Stubbs Minyard in Dallas, Texas.

He spent most of his life in the Dallas, Texas area until the last two years when he moved to Henryetta. He loved to play golf, cook, and was a chef at Nelson's Restaurant. Minyard enjoyed farming and ranching,

Preceding him in death were: his father; paternal grandparents, Nealy F. and Lorena Thompson Minyard; and his maternal grandfather, Ray Stubbs.

He is survived by: a son, Allan William Minyard of Rhome, Texas; grandmother, Geraldine Stubbs of Henryetta; mother, Jerri Minyard of San Antonio, Texas; two sisters, Stephanie Minyard Rogers of Henryetta and Michelle Haas of Arlington, Texas; two nephews; uncles; and aunts.

Casketbearers were: John Minyard; Terry Minyard; Lendy Allen; Mark Allen; Curry Blankenship; and Dick Stubbs.

Interment was at New Sonora Cemetery.

MOLLIE WILSON

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Mollie Bear Wilson were held July 1 at Hudson-Phillips Chapel.

She was born Jan. 27, 1911 in Calvin to Samuel and Alice Fraizer Bear.

She was raised in the Calvin area and attended Eufaula Boarding School. She later attended Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan. She and her family moved to Pernell in Garvin County for five years. She had lived in Holdenville since 1974. Wilson was a member of Tookparfka Baptist Church serving as a women's leader.

Preceding her in death were: her husband, Bennie Wilson; daughter, Naomi Sue Wilson; a great-granddaughter; a great-grandson; two grandsons; and stepson.

Survivors include: three daughters, Elsie Ruth Dickey, Mary Jane Milam, and Josephine Wilson; three sons, Stephen, Paul, and Simon Wilson; two stepsons, Johnny Wilson and Joe Culley; a brother, Johnson Bear; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Interment was at Holdenville Cemetery.

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Vnickvn kometsken omat, (918) 631-5799 momen 1-800-438-5909, vhuekepakcares.

Mvskoke Etvlwv Princess sv hoktvlecat, Betsy Factor momen, Mvskoke Etvlwv Princess, Jade McIntosh momen, Mvskoke Etvlwv Princess cutkat, Brenna Littlehead tos. Mvskoke Etvlwn afvcketvn fulletomes.

Muscogee Nation wAnu Legal Office yÔn gwa kOta' ê

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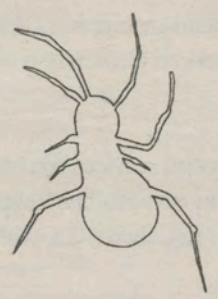

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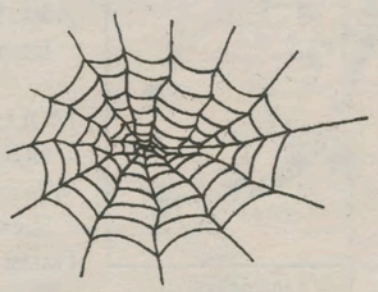

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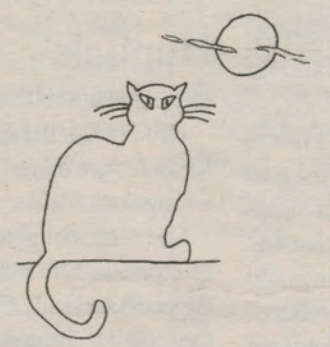

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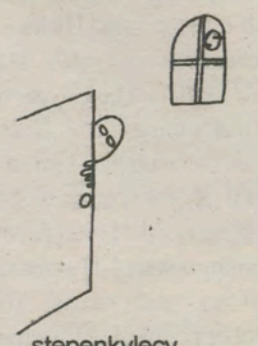

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Congress approves reorganization plan for bureau

WASHINGTON — The House and Senate appropriations committees with funding authority over Department of Interior (DOI) programs have approved an interior plan to realign the management organization of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians. Input for the reorganization plan was received through the Joint Tribal/DOI Task Force on Trust Reform and a series of consultation meetings the Interior Department held over the past year with tribal leaders.

In early December Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs Neal A. McCaleb announced the major proposal in order to improve services to indi-

see **BIA**..., page 9

McCaleb challenges trust accounting claims

WASHINGTON — Outgoing Assistant Secretary — Neal McCaleb said there is "no basis" for Indian plaintiffs seeking an accounting of their funds to claim they are owed

see **CLAIMS** ... page 9

Eastern Oklahoma Regional BIA Office dedicated

photo by Denise Jacobs

In late November, Interior Assistant Secretary — Indian Affairs Neal A. McCaleb, left, joined Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, right, in dedicating the new headquarters of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office in Muskogee. Also pictured is Jeanette Hanna, Eastern Oklahoma Regional Director, center. The BIA is the sole tenant of the 42,000 square foot, two-story facility which was built and is owned by the Muscogee Nation.

Mvskoke Nettv cako Rakko: A Creek Christmas

by Edwin Marshall

Nettv cako Rakko or Christmas in the English language, literally is translated to "highest day of reverence" or "highest holy day" in the Mvskoke language. This is not to be confused with Tvcako Rakko ("highest week") which is another term used in association with the traditional Posketv — the week of the summer Green Corn ceremonies among the traditionalists.

When Christianity was introduced to the indigenous people of North America, the beliefs and traditions of Christianity were also incorporated into the religious practices of the newly converted Indian church members. As it is in the dominant culture, Christmas is also celebrated as the season of the birth of Jesus Christ among Native Christians. The ceremonious act of gift giving — representative of God's gift of his son Jesus Christ to mortal man — was especially embraced by the Natives as it was a traditional value to give even before the advent of Christianity. The following is a description of a Christmas at nearly any Indian Church (Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, etc.) in the Muscogee Nation.

Typically, preparations for the annual Christmas program are made in the days following the Thanksgiving season by church leaders. Responsibilities are then divided among the members and committees for various duties. Those include: coordinating a Christmas program (usually the Sunday School classes presenting a costumed reenactment of the nativity); shopping and buying candy and fruit for the bags that will be handed out for everyone attending; secretly drawing names among the church members to determine who they will buy a gift for; cutting and erecting a Christmas tree; decorating the church and tree; locating a person to act as Santa Claus (usually a member of a different church so the kids can't guess the identity); and finally, designating a speaker to deliver the Christmas sermon (usually the pastor).

see **NETTV CAKO RAKKO**..., page 9

McCaleb resigning

WASHINGTON — Interior Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs Neal A. McCaleb, 67, announced his decision to retire from public service, informing President George W. Bush and Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton of his plans to leave his current post on Dec. 31, 2002.

McCaleb released the following statement on his decision: "After a long period of prayerful deliberation I have decided the time is right to bring my public service career to a close. I began my campaign to build real and lasting economic opportunities for American Indian people as far back as 1967 as a member of Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity. In my current position, I have been disappointed to learn that a contentious and litigious environment obscures the hard work that remains before us. The pathway to improve the quality of life for America's native people is to create strong economies. We must look to the future by creating new opportunities for In-

see **McCALEB**..., page 10

Letters to the editor

Dinner honoring former reps declared a success

Editor:

In October the Muscogee (Creek) National Council honored two former Muskogee District National Council members with an appreciation dinner in Muskogee.

The National Council's Internal Affairs Committee coordinated the event. As chair of the committee, I would like to thank the following: National Council staff — who volunteered their time to decorate and prepare the building for the dinner; Muskogee Indian Community Board of Directors — who offered the use of their building to host the dinner; and Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo — for sponsoring the catered dinner, providing two cakes, presenting gift certificates to Chupco and Little's widow, Geraldine, and generously providing other supplies for the dinner program. Thanks also goes out to tribal Lighthorse Administration Chief Washington Cummings and his officers for providing an escort for Mrs. Chupco, and her family, from her residence to Muskogee Indian Community Center. It was a four-car escort and really looked impressive as the vehicles pulled into the community parking lot.

The community members, tribal citizens, and guests of the Chupco and Little families enjoyed the fellowship that afternoon. Without a doubt, the dinner and program honoring two of our former and finest Council members was an overwhelming success.

Ronald A. Cleghorn, Tulsa

Those attending late pastor's retirement thanked

Editor:

On July 27, 2002, a retirement gathering for the late Rev. George Miller was held at his home in Coweta. Well over 150 people came by to wish him well. Songs were sung by members of several churches. Many individuals spoke of Rev. Miller as having a good heart, willing to help others, being faithful to God, and to the churches he was appointed to, and how he was an inspiration to them.

We, his family, want to thank all who came by, shared their songs, prayers, cards, gifts of love, and kind words. Our thanks is also extended to Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver for the presentation of a Muscogee Nation flag in honor of his retirement and to Rev. David Wilson, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Superintendent, for serving as the master of ceremonies.

Lucille Bible Miller, Coweta

Woman is grateful for prayers and visits to sister

Editor:

Thank you for the prayers, visits, and flowers offered to my sister, Irene Cleghorn.

She is slowly recovering, it's progress! She does have some speech, full awareness, and movement of the left side. She is now at Manor Care Health Services, 2900 Parklawn Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73110 (north, past Midwest City Hospital). Please, feel free to visit her.

Anna J. King, Midwest City

Woman seeks old photographs

Editor:

I am seeking help from your readers in locating a photograph of Amos McIntosh, born Sept. 10, 1856 in the Eufaula area.

His father was John McIntosh, a Baptist missionary. He had a brother named Alexander. His mother was Sarah Watson. Some of his half siblings were named: Senora; Kogee; Job; Elizabeth; Jeanette; Isaiah (Jeremiah); and Dora McIntosh.

I will be glad to reimburse individuals for the cost of copies and postage. Please contact me at (918) 836-5004 or 9123 E. Marshall Place, Tulsa, OK 74115. Thank you.

V.M. McIntosh, Tulsa

Mvskoke hymn singers thankful for support

Editor:

In September, I and six other Muscogee citizens headed to Macon, Ga. for the 11th annual Ocmulgee Indian Celebration held at the Ocmulgee National Monument. We were honored to be the first Muscogee (Creeks) to return to Macon and sing Mvskoke songs where many of them originated. We sang our songs on the temple mound and at the burial mound. I want to thank all the people in our group — Matt and Carrol Tiger; Rusty Powell; Charley Mitchell; Ruthie Burgess; Terry Dutchy; and Louise McNac — that went to sing these spiritual Mvskoke hymns.

We just give God the glory, for sending us and making this trip happen. On behalf of the group, I want to thank the following: Ocmulgee National Monument staff, for providing our lunch each day; Rocky Face Church, for supper and putting us up for the night; all those that supported our fundraising event — an Indian taco sale; and the Creek Council House Museum staff for all their orders and a donation.

We look forward to next year's visit. If it's God's will, we will be back once again.

Donnie McNac, Okemah

War hero's brother wants signs returned to bridge

Editor:

Kelly R. Moore was born near Morris on March 29, 1914 and except for the time when he was away from home in school, he lived on Moore Creek , three and a half miles south of the City of Morris. In 1940, before our country entered World War II, he was already serving as a volunteer in the U.S. Army. He rose to the rank of first lieutenant and led troops in the invasions made by the U.S. Army into North Africa, Sicily, and Italy. On Feb. 9, 1944, he was killed in action while leading troops in the assault and capture of Mount Cassino in Italy.

Lt. Moore was Muscogee (Creek) Indian. In the prime of his youth, he gave his life fighting the forces of evil in the battlefields of Europe during World War II, defending the freedoms we all enjoy today.

In 1996, the county commissioners of Okmulgee County built a new bridge over Moore Creek on the Jog Line Road, four miles south and one and a half miles west of the City of Morris. A ceremony was conducted at the bridge and it was dedicated to the memory of Lt. Moore on July 11, 1996. The Okmulgee County Commissioners were present at the dedication ceremony that day and they were joined by state Sen. Frank Shurden of Henryetta and state Rep. M.C. Leist of Morris. Also, three men were present who were personal friends of Moore: Colonel John Hillman of Okmulgee; Lieutenant Jack Montgomery, World War II Medal of Honor winner from Muskogee; and Rev. Harry Long of Muskogee. Signs bearing the name of Lt. Moore were placed at each end of the bridge.

Recently these signs were removed from the bridge by persons unknown. By removing the signs from the Kelly Moore Bridge, the unknown persons have desecrated the memory of a real American warrior who gave his life defending the freedoms we all enjoy today. If you read this letter, I hope you will find it in your heart[s] to have the decency to return his signs to their rightful place on the Kelly Moore Bridge. If you do this, the spirit of Kelly Moore will rest forever in peace in the grave where he now lies in the U.S. Army Cemetery at Nettuno, a few miles south of Rome, Italy. The brothers of Kelly Moore and his nephews, nieces, other relatives, and friends hope that Kelly's signs will be returned to the bridge where they belong.

Edwin S. Moore, Muskogee

Legal Notices

Published in The Muscogee Nation News,
Volume 31, Issue 11
Case No. D 2002-12

In the matter of Lucinda Eslick, Plaintiff, vs. Joseph N. Eslick, Defendant.

Notice of Hearing

To: Joseph N. Eslick

Notice is hereby given that a Petition has been filed in the above cited case in which Petitioner Lucinda Eslick seeks to obtain a divorce. Hearing on the Petition has been set for 10:00 a.m. on the 20th day of January, 2003, at the above named court in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Anyone having objection to the granting of the requested relief may file a written protest in the case prior to the date set for hearing. If no written protest is filed, relief will be granted as requested in the Petition.

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Attorney for Petitioner
Lori J. Guevara, Clinical Legal Fellow
University of Tulsa/Muscogee (Creek) Nation Law Clinic
407 South Florence Avenue
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74104
(918) 631-5799
Washington State Bar Association #28732

see NOTICES..., page 10

The Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Berryhill, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at a May 4 quarterly session and May 18 regular session.

May 4 quarterly session

Absent were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee District; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee District; and **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• returned to committee (16-3-0), Tribal Resolution 02-012, authorizing the principal chief to execute an amendment of the Dec. 1, 1998 "memorandum of agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation, Inc." to eliminate references to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a tribally designated housing entity;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington,** Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields,** Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible,** Tulsa; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ronald Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

voting no were: **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; and **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee;

• tabled (12-7) TR 02-022, authorizing the principal chief to enter into a financing agreement with Bank One to fund construction of an office building in Muskogee;

voting no were: **Lewis**; **Almerigi**; **Peters**; **Bible**; **Cleghorn**; **Hufft**, and **Kelley**;

• approved (17-2-0) TR 02-029, confirming the nomination of **Arlene Efurd** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were **Aaron** and **Fields**;

• approved (16-3-0) National Council Act 02-030, confirming the renomination of Samuel S. Alexander to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Lewis**; **Almerigi**; and **Cleghorn**;

• approved (11-8-0) NCA 02-009, a law amending NCA 98-130, to change the department of grant program compliance to the Native American Housing And Self Determination Act Grant Compliance Office;

voting no were: **Aaron**; **Warrington**; **Watson**; **Golden**; **Peters**; **Cleghorn**; **Hufft**; **Gillespie**;

• tabled (13-6-0) NCA 02-040, a law amending NCA 97-100, as amended by NCA 98-70, and amending NCA 98-130 and NCA 98-131, to be codified in title 24, "Housing," of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to eliminate references to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a "tribally designated housing entity;"

voting no were: **Lewis**; **Johnson**; **Almerigi**; **Fields**; **Bible**; **Kelley**;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-053, authorizing the appropriation of the fiscal year 2001 administrative capacity building funds made available to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Indian Reservation Roads Program to further develop the transportation planning program;

• approved (18-1-0) NCA 02-054, authorizing a budget modification for the transportation improvement program FY 1999 and 2001 budgets;

voting no was **Golden**;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-055, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Services Department Self-Governance Program;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-060, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Seminole County;

• tabled unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-064, appropriating funds for the payment of interest on a loan with Bank One;

• approved (12-7-0) NCA 02-065, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) citizen with a mission trip to Ireland;

voting no were: **Aaron**; **Barnett**; **Lewis**; **Bible**; **Quiett**; **Berryhill;** and **Gillespie**;

• approved (18-1-0) NCA 02-067, authorizing a special appropriation to Muscogee Indian Community to construct a new community smokeshop building;

voting no was **Aaron**;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-068, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department for broadcast costs of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal program at KOKL-AM 1240 Okmulgee;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-069, appropriating funds from Bureau of Indian Affairs Self-Governance compact for the purpose of environmental cleanup of the sanitary sewer system at Kellyville Indian Community Center and for removal of trash dumps on Ferguson Road, also known as Skelly-Haskell Road; and

• returned to committee unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-056, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Services Department Water Quality Program.

May 18 regular session

Absent were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee District; and **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee District.

The Council acted on Principal Chief **R. Perry Beaver's** veto message:

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) to let stand Tribal Resolution 02-003, approving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System compact agreement with the Indian Health Service;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington,** Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields,** Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible,** Tulsa; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ronald Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• failed to override (15-6-0) the veto of TR 02-030, con-

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 10

Editor's note: Reports derived from official Muscogee National Council regular, quarterly, special, and extraordinary meeting minutes are published upon availability. At press time, official minutes were not available for: June 29 regular session; July 27 quarterly session; Aug. 8 extraordinary session. Aug. 24 regular session; Sept. 24 special session; Sept. 28 regular session; Oct. 15 special session; Oct. 26 quarterly session; and Nov. 23 regular session

Dinner honoring former Muskogee District representatives held

MUSKOGEE — The Muscogee National Council recently held an appreciation dinner for former Muskogee District Representatives Helen Palmer Chupco and the late Harley Gene Little on Oct. 19 at Muskogee Indian Community Center.

The dinner and program honored and recognized Chupco and Little for their outstanding service and dedication while representing the Muskogee District. Chupco and Little served 23 and 11 years on the Council, respectively.

Members of Chupco and Little's families were in attendance at the dinner which was coordinated by the Council's internal affairs committee. Farrell Kaaihue served as master of ceremonies for the program. Revs. Harry Long and Alfred Berryhill also participated. Okmulgee District Rep. Sandra Peters sang a rendition of the song, "What a Wonderful World." Second Chief A.D. Ellis represented the administration. "[He] delivered a sincere and heartwarming speech in recognition of Chupco and Little's service to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation," said Ronald A. Cleghorn, internal affairs committee chair. Wagoner District Rep. Barbara Gillespie represented the National Council and spoke of her association with the two individuals being honored. Muskogee Indian Community Chair Leon Yahola served as spokesperson for his former representatives and delivered many kind words on their behalf. "Muskogee District Representative Sandra Parish was humble in her speech and very complimentary in her remarks that praised Mrs. Chupco and Mr. Little for their legislative excellence," Cleghorn said. Wagoner District Rep. Richard "Mike" Berryhill gave the benediction. "Mrs. [Geraldine] Little spoke and gave a very emotional speech that was felt by all. All who attended agreed that Mrs. Chupco and Mr. Little adequately represented their constituent's concerns with compassion, dignity, and honor," Cleghorn said.

Plaques from Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo were presented to Chupco and Mrs. Little. The National Council passed individual tribal resolutions in honor of Chupco and Little's tenures and dedication to the Muscogee Nation. They were read aloud by Rep. Gillespie and were later presented with framed copies. Second Chief Ellis read the individual proclamations declaring Oct. 19 to be observed as Helen Palmer Chupco/Harley Gene Little Day throughout the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Pictured above, left to right, are: Geraldine Little; Helen Chupco; and Farrell Kaaihue.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in: Eufaula; Holdenville; Okemah; and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Jan. 15.

• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Jan. 2 and 16.

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Jan. 2 and 16.

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Jan. 7 and 21; and

• Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Jan. 7.

Food distribution program sites, times, and dates

OKMULGEE— The following lists food distribution site locations and dates.

Times for the distribution of food are from 9 to 11 a.m. unless otherwise listed.

New and emergency applicants may receive food from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Okmulgee warehouse located at 1010 E. Eufaula.

Recipients that missed distribution at their regularly scheduled site may retrieve food at the Okmulgee warehouse; this arrangement requires that appointments be made by calling (918) 756-3467; or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 400.

The Okmulgee warehouse is closed on the last business day of each month.

The center locations and distribution dates are:

Koweta Community Center; one-fourth of a mile north of stateway 51 on Ben Lumpkin Road and one-eight of a mile east; 9 to 11 a.m, first and third Tuesdays

Glenpool Community Center; one block east of state highway 75 and 141st street; first Wednesdays;

Bristow Community Center; 121 W. Lincoln; first Thursdays;

Eufaula Community Center; 800 Forest Ave.; third Friday;

Sapulpa Community Center; 1020 N. Brown St.; second Wednesdays;

Checotah Community Center; 830 N. Broadway second and fourth Thursdays;

Wetumka Community Center; 608 N. Creek; 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; second Fridays

Okemah Community Center; 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St; third Wednesdays;

Holdenville Community Center; 224 E. Poplar third Thursdays;

Dustin Community Center; corner of Sparks and Broadway; fourth Friday;

Weleetka Community Center; 603 S. Chickasaw; 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.; second Friday;

Okmulgee Main Office; 1010 E Eufaula; 9 a.m to 3 p.m, first and third Mondays

Fire suppression program offers pack test

OKMULGEE — The Bureau of Indian Affairs/ Muscogee (Creek) Nation fire suppression program will be administering pack tests on Dec. 29 and Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26 and Feb 2.

Pack testing will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Testing dates will be cancelled in the event of rain, sleet, or snow. Tests will be administered at Harmon Stadium — Okmulgee High School football stadium. Emergency Medical Service will be present during all testing.

Participants will be required to carry a minimum of 45 pounds for three miles in 45 minutes or less. New recruits must provide a certificate degree of Indian blood or tribal citizenship cards. Recruits must also pick up medical examination forms from the fire management office and return it by the last date of pack testing. Qualified applicants will be sent to Ada for rookie wildland fire fighting training from Feb. 3 through 7.

Fire fighters must also complete a 2003 refresher course, "Standard for Survival." The dates for this course will be announced on the first day of the pack test.

The fire management office is located at 1006 E. Eufaula Street. For more information, call Jason Waquie at (918) 752-0604.

Lighthorse police recruiting youth for program

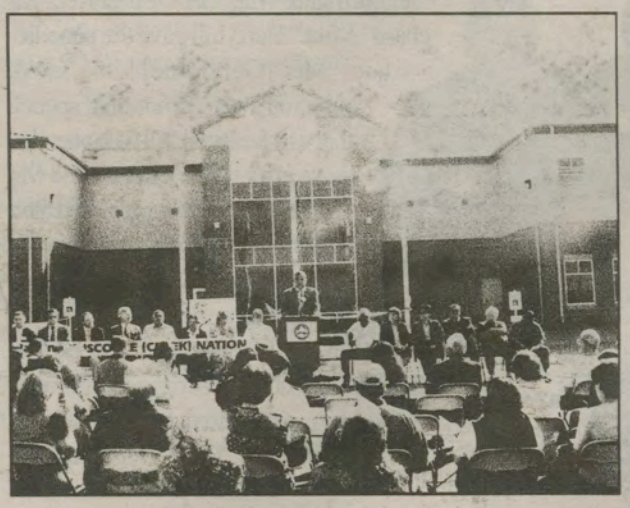
OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police are seeking to recruit youth between the

see **NOTICES**..., page 5

Creek Nation Housing Authority grand opening

Left: Shawn Scott, SGS project manager, George Tiger, Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, and National Council Speaker Wilbur Gouge prepare to cut the ribbon at the grand opening .

Right: Chief Beaver accepts a document from Beverly Rogers, Okmulgee City Planning Commissioner, proclaiming the week of Oct. 3 through 10 as Muscogee (Creek) Nation Week' in the City of Okmulgee.



Above: Creek Nation Housing Authority Building

Left: Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver addresses the crowd at the grand opening of the new Creek Nation Housing Authority Building.

Right: Loy Thomas, (foreground) and Tim Thompson of the Mvskoke Honor Guard prepare to raise the flags.

photos by Gerald Wofford

Notices

continued from page 4

ages 14 and 20 for its police explorer program.

An explorer post is being established to enhance the relationship between youth and the police department. The lighthorseman police explorers will meet once a month and may attend national conferences and leadership training academies. The program includes: meetings; role-playing; workshops; trips; "ride-alongs;" and community service activities.

Police explorers will learn about: police procedures such as investigation and patrol practices; emergency communications; first aid; and fingerprinting.

Youth interested in joining the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorseman Police Explorers may call 1 (800) 482-1979, extensions 444 or 381.

Administration outlines quarterly highlights

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Division of Health Administration reported on its quarterly highlights at its October regular meeting.

Highlights include:

• completion of expansion and resurfacing of parking lots, completion of a new roof, and replacement of heating and air units at Okmulgee Indian Health Center;

• submission of application to Indian Health Service for joint venture clinic project to be located in Coweta. If selected, the health administration/tribe will fund construction of clinic at a cost of $6 to seven million and IHS will provide operational money in the amount of approximately $12 million for each year thereafter;

• the diabetes program hosted a diabetic education camp with approximately 50 people attending;

• the self-governance compact was negotiated and completed;

• a new Women Infants Children program building has been completed on the tribal capitol complex, providing for the expansion and efficiency of service; and

• modular buildings for diabetics program space at each clinic have been provided.

The division of health administration employs 348 people, with 55 percent being Muscogee (Creek), 29 percent being non-Indian, and 16 percent being of other tribes.

Tribal manager receives awards

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee Nation Community Health Representatives manager Cyndi Harjo (Gilks) received two awards during the 17th Annual CHR Conference held Sept. 16 through 20.

She received an appreciation award for work she has done while serving as secretary for the Oklahoma Area Association of Community Health Representatives. She also received a citation for four years of service as an officer to

see **NOTICES**..., page 11

Tribal employee receives EPA acknowledgement

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee Nation Division of Tribal Affairs Director Curtis Hicks was recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency for his efforts in supervising the cleanup of a major environmental health hazard.

A field solicitor notified the tribe that restricted land, owned by a tribal citizen, contained old vehicle tires estimated at 75,000 which presented a public health nuisance. Upon notification, Hicks was assigned to plan and restore the land to original condition.

In this joint effort, he organized staff and funding from the department of environmental qualities, Office of EPA from Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Inter-Tribal Environmental Council to complete the project.

The property is now recognized as a model for environmental agencies as well as an example for improving restricted land.

Gregg Cooke, EPA Director for Region VI, presents and Curtis Hicks, tribal affairs director, with the acknowledgement.

Tobacco Education and Prevention Program's Camp Smokeout

Left: Cynthia Coachman and Carla Brown of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Education and Prevention Program prepare to register participants at Camp Smokeout.

Right: Mvskoke longbow maker Michael Berryhil of Henryetta demonstrates the art of his skill at Camp Smokeout.

photos by Gerald Wofford

Right: Alexis Crosley of Bristow and camp participant Ashton Taylor pause for a photo after Crosley spoke about the making of turtle shell shackles.

Above: Members of Tallahassee Wvkokaye Ceremonial Ground educate children at Camp Smokeout about the history ofstompdancing.

Left: Ballstick maker Kelly Bell of Shawnee talks to the youth about the process of ballstick making.

Council Oak Tree Ceremony

Oct. 12, 2002

Ocevpofv Mekko George Thompson stands as he is introduced during the introduction of Mvskoke and Yuchi (Euchee) ceremonial ground leaders and members. Among towns represented, front row, left to right, are: Felix Brown Jr., Duck Creek second chief; Mekko David Proctor, Tallahassee (Wvkokiye); Mekko Jimmy Deere, Greenleaf; Felix Gouge, New Tulsa; and Larry Haikey, Tvlahvse. Back row — Chief Simon Harry, Duck Creek, unidentified man; Thompson, Mekko Barney Harjochee, Okfuskee; Chief Gary Bucktrot, Sand Creek; and, standing in background, Arnold Meeley, Apekv.

Locvpokv Tribal Town member Dawn Thompson served as mistress of ceremonies. Thompson served as Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation 2001-2002.

Dignataries and program presenters pictured in front of the Council Oak Tree. Pictured, left to right, is: June Mustari, Tulsa Creek Indian Community board member; Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; Thompson; Tom Tiger; and Joyce Bear, Muscogee Nation Cultural Preservation Office manager.

Jason Harjo Jr. (youth with ballsticks) takes Mallary Bible down as they fight for the ball. Harjo belongs to Greenleaf and Bible belongs to New Tulsa. Also pictured, in foreground, are: Arnold Meeley, Apekv; Harjo; Bible; Melissa Beaver, Weogufkee; and Floyd Brown, Duck Creek.

Senior Miss Mvskoke Nation Betsy Factor

Greenleaf Mekko Jimmy Deere leads a dance held at Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center following the Council Oak Tree ceremony.

Mvskoke and Yuchi (Euchee) youth paint at a crafts table for youth. Pictured, left to right, is: Bradley Meeley; Alexis and Megan Lindsay; and Yahnee Brown.

Nuyaka Tribal Town Emponayv Eunice Hill makes the introduction of tribal town leaders.

Miss Mvskoke Nation Jade McIntosh, Factor, Little Miss Elisa Fields, and Junior Miss Brenna Little Head

Crosier named finalist for scholarship

PAULS VALLEY — Robbie Bryan Crosier has been selected as a finalist for the National Society of High School Scholars Claes Nobel Scholarship.

The society inducts "only the most outstanding" high school students graduating today and honors them for academic achievement. Two new members will receive a $5,000 scholarship to be awarded in December. Crosier was selected from among 14,000 members.

Crosier

The mission of the national society of high school scholars is to recognize and encourage academic excellence among the most exceptional high school seniors. The society selects students nationally and awards this distinction on a very limited basis. Membership is by invitation only, extended chair Claes Nobel. Nobel's family established the Nobel Prizes in 1901 in order to note outstanding contributions in the fields of peace, literature, medicine, chemistry, and physics.

Crosier is the son of Robin and Bob Phillips of Pauls Valley and the late Ronnie Crosier.

He is the grandson of James and Collene Morrison Jones of Dustin and Raymond and Novella Crosier of Okmulgee.

Tiger promoted at military academy

CAMP HILL, Ala. — Nick Tiger was promoted to first lieutenant at Lymand Ward Military academy.

Tiger graduated and was a first sergeant with a grade point average of 2.62. He first entered the academy in August 1999 and started as a private in the 10th grade.

Tiger

Lymand Ward Military Academy is a boys military boarding school that has been providing students from around the world with a military preparatory school since 1898.

He is the son of Sue Flud Tiger.

Citizen makes strong outing as pitcher

EDMOND — Muscogee citizen Gloria Jobe was the top pitcher for Memorial High School Softball Team going 14-10 with 159 strikeouts, seven shutouts, three one-hitters, and a 0.83 earned run average.

Jobe, a transfer from Perkins High School, made her debut pitching start at Class 6A against the eighth-ranked team in the state and threw a one-hit shutout to lead the Lady Bulldogs to a 4-0 win. She allowed only three batters to reach base the entire evening and struck out seven in picking up her first win of the season. She also supplied the biggest hit of the night with a two-run homer in the second inning. During the previous day, she pitched scoreless innings of relief in the season-opening win against Moore.

Jobe, who was Perkins number one pitcher last season, helped take the team to finals where it finished 70-13 on the season. "I'm really not surprised she's doing so well so early," Memorial Coach Janet Chartney said. "Her team made it to nationals and she's faced plenty of good batters before."

Jobe is the granddaughter of David Lewis of Henryetta.

Tulsa Indian Community honors board members

TULSA — Tulsa Creek Indian Community Board of Directors were honored during a luncheon held on Sept. 12 at the community center.

The board members were given plaques that read: "In appreciation of our board of directors for outstanding service to Tulsa Creek Indian Community."

Board members honored include: Owen Sapulpa; Eleanor June Mustari; Paula Willits; and Ron Cleghorn. Not pictured is board member Richard Anderson.

Siblings help lead team to championship

STROUD — Anderson and Thomasine Watashe members of the Stroud Tigers third grade football team and fourth grade cheerleading squad, respectively ended their season by winning the Central Football League.

A Watashe played football for the Tigers, while T. Watashe cheered them on. On Nov. 2, Stroud defeated the Beggs Demons for the championship game with a 26-0 win.

T. and A. Watashe

The Tigers ended their season with an 11-0 record. The siblings are the children of Ben and Paula Watashe of Kellyville and Bess and Steve Franklin of Stroud.

Woman makes first appearance at show

PIEDMONT — Kathy McNabb entered her first arts and crafts show with entries in oil painting.

Her subject matter includes landscapes, lighthouses, floral and some southwest pieces.

McNabb

McNabb, a graduate of Hanna School, is the daughter of the late Eugene Tolbert, Hanna and Maxine Mitchell Tolbert of Crowder. She and her husband, Larry, reside in Piedmont.

KOREY WEST

ADA — Korey Dale West was born Aug. 12 to Talia Culley and Kenneth West.

He weighed 9 pounds and 3 and one half ounces and was 21 inches in length.

His maternal grandparents are Farron and Irene Culley of Okemah. He is the great-grandson of Lorene and the late Paul Culley of Wetumka and the late Amos and Juanita Harjochee of Okemah.

West

His paternal grandparents are Terri Tiger and Charles West of Oklahoma City. His great-grandparents are Bill and Nellie West of Weleetka and Harry Tiger and Bernice Fish of Oklahoma City.

West belongs to the Alligator Clan and Okfuskee Tribal Town.

Boy celebrates fifth birthday with spider man

TULSA — Alexander Fus Hutkoce Harrison celebrated his fifth birthday on Aug. 28 with a Spider Man party theme at Chuck E. Cheese.

He is the son of Loriette Harrison Bible.

Harrison

Attending the party were: his mother; grandmother, Janice Berryhill; great grandmother, Vada Nichwander; great aunt, Virginia Nichwander; aunt, Vonda Switch; and cousins Kayla and Melissa.

Girl celebrates first birthday with a picnic

SAPULPA — Kyla Nicole Tiger celebrated her first birthday on Sept. 3 with family and friends at a picnic at Liberty Park.

Tiger

She is the daughter of Sherri Tiger. She is the granddaughter of Judy Bruner and Lorene Brown and James Tiger.

Tiger belongs to the Deer Clan and Polecat Ceremonial Ground.

MARY BEAR

HAYDENVILLE — Funeral services for Mary Josie Bear were held Oct. 15 at Montesoma Baptist Church with Rev. Justin Deere officiating.

Bear died Oct. 11 in Tulsa. She was born to Barney Leader and Effie Harjo Leader in 1943.

She spent most of her life in the Okemah area. She married Ashley Bear in 1960. She enjoyed playing bingo, fishing, and watching her grandchildren play sports.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; brother, Gilbert McCulley; and sister, Salina Sanchez.

She is survived by: her husband of the home; stepmother, Liza Leader; five sons, Joe of Wewoka, Timothy of Okemah, Daniel of Henryetta, Joe of Okemah, and Patrick of Okmulgee; daughter, Lisa Bear of Tulsa; six brothers, Jesse Leader of Missouri, Eddie Leader of Henryetta, Raymond Leader of Lamar, Kenneth McCulley of Bowlegs, William McCulley of Pryor, and Eddie McCulley of Oklahoma City; five sisters, Lottie Mae Coody of Florida, Marilyn McCulley of Moore, and Joyce, Evelyn, and Sandra McCulley, all of Oklahoma City; 23 grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and many relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Bear Family Cemetery.

LEIGH BEAVER

OAKHURST — Funeral services for Leigh Marice Beaver were held July 10 at Oakhurst Indian Fellowship Church with Revs. Jimmy Alexander and Newman Crowels Jr. officiating.

Beaver

Beaver died on July 6. She was born in Claremore to Barbara and Sammy Beaver on Oct. 11, 1972. Beaver lived and went to school in the Sapulpa and Eufaula areas all of her life.

Beaver had converted to Christianity shortly before her death.

Preceding her in death were: her father; stepfather, Bobby Tiger; grandparents, Alfred and Martha Bevenue of Sapulpa and Walter Beaver and Jeanetta Barnett of Stidham.

Survivors include: her mother; brother, Sheldon Beaver of the home; aunts and uncles, Alfred and Wanda Bevenue of Tulsa, Mike and JoAnn Whitehead of Glenpool, Patty Banks of Tulsa, Wanda Bevenue of Sapulpa, Josephine Haney of Ada; and many other relatives.

Interment was at the Esther Sapulpa Family Cemetery.

JOHNATHON FISHER

BEDFORD, Texas — Johnathon Stephan Fisher died on Sept. 17.

Fisher was born Aug. 18, 1918 to Lewis and Ina Tilly Fisher on his grandmother's allotment in Dustin.

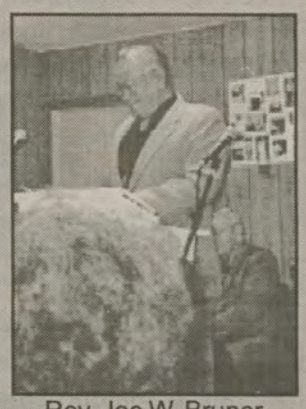
Fisher was raised in Okemah and graduated from high school there. He worked for Corken Pump Company, Oklahoma City. He joined the National Guard 45th Thunderbird Division. When World War II began he joined the Army Air Force. He married Joyce Butler in 1942 and, after discharge from the service, they made their home in Okemah where he owned and operated Fisher Motor Company.

He was preceded in death by his parents and grandmother, Christie Grayson Tilly.

He is survived by: his wife; two daughters, Ruth Loyd of Grapevine, Texas, and Diana Fisher of Lake Oswego, Ore.; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Middle Creek No. 1 celebrates 133rd homecoming

LAMAR — On Oct. 13, 2002, the members of Middle Creek No. 1 Baptist Church celebrated the 133 year of the establishment of their church with 200 people in attendance.


Rev. Joe W. Bruner

The celebration began with Head Deacon Jake Bruner's blowing of the horn. Rev. Raymond McGirt led the first Mvskoke hymn, followed by prayer. Charles Johnson, assistant to the pastor, was in charge of the services. Pastor Johnson Roberts was unable to attend because of illness. Rev. Joe W. Bruner read the church history. The families of the late Toby Alexander, Lentie Bruner, Sam Mitchell, James Smith, Lucinda Bruner, Nancy Alexander, and Annie Bruner were recognized. Mary Sue Alexander Peak read comments from her dad, Rev. W.M. Alexander, the grandson of Toby Alexander. Alexander, a pastor for 22 years, talked of his childhood days at Middle Creek. He closed with the Mvskoke hymn, "Espoketis Omes Kerreskos."

Lunch was served, followed by a short message from Rev. Jimmy Anderson. Gospel singing was lead by J.W. Buck.

Church elders are: Rev. Roberts; Millie Walters; and Hattie Alexander.

GRACE OVERMAN

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Grace Hawkins Overman were held Oct. 14 at Little Coweta Baptist Church with Rev. Gary Hawkins officiating.

Overman died Oct. 10. She and a twin brother, Bud, were born Aug. 23, 1911 at Stidham to Dan and Rhoda McGilbray Hawkins. She was a homemaker and member of Little Coweta Baptist Church.

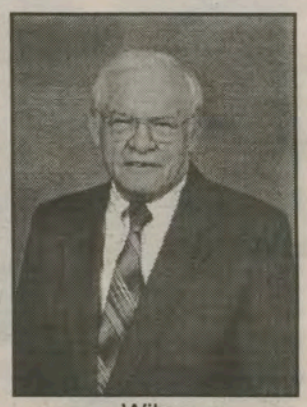
Preceding her in death were: her husband Ellis; parents; two brothers, Bud and Andrew Hawkins; five sisters, Annie Buck, Dolly Boyd, Maybelle Skaggs, Kigo Carey, and Billie Givens; daughter, Belle Wilson; and grandson, Johnny Mack Brown.

She is survived by: one son, Johnny Brown of Catoosa; three grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Hawkins-McIntosh Cemetery.

HARMON WILEY

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Harmon Wiley were held Oct. 8 at Faith Baptist Church with Rev. Ron Ogle officiating.


Wiley

Wiley died Oct. 4 at St. John Medical Center in Sapulpa. He was born May 4, 1916 to Adam and Melissa Kanard Wiley in Dustin.

He attended Euchee Mission School and graduated from Sapulpa High School and the University of Tulsa. He was an Army veteran of World War II, a member of the Lions Club and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. He was a member of Faith Baptist Church of Sapulpa. He was a retired social services representative for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Jay Agency.

Preceding him in death were: his parents, his sister, Harrietta Wiley; and his brother, Mannie Wiley.

He is survived by: his wife, Anna Lee, of the home; his children, Grace Ann Smith of Edmond, David Wiley of Shawnee, Laura O'Dell of Caney, Kan., and Roger Wiley of McAlester; grandchildren, Jeff O'Dell of Tulsa, Andrea Smith of Edmond, Erin O'Dell of Norman, Jordan and Nathan Wiley of Shawnee, and Chebon and Carmen Wiley of McAlester; and brother, Adam Wiley of Monterey Park, Calif.

The Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard gave military rites. Internment was at South Heights cemetery in Sapulpa.

Gratitude

We want like to express our sincere gratitude for the outpouring of love and sympathy offered during the loss of our loved one.

Special thanks is given to: Revs. Malcolm Tiger and Dennis Barnett; Oakhurst Indian Fellowship Church; Salt Creek United Methodist Church; members of Polecat Ceremonial Ground — for their sincere words of comfort and assistance; and to Hospice of Green Country for their help.

Thanks to everyone who sent food, cards, flowers, assistance, and love offerings.

Lorene Dunn Brown Family

We would like to thank Thlewarle Baptist Church members, Rev. Allison Phillips, and the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard as well as everyone who came and brought comfort and support for our family.

George Bunny Jr. Family

We would like to say thank you — perhaps you dropped by to say hello or called us on the phone. Maybe you visited for a while to keep us from being alone. You may have sent flowers or a card to show you cared. Possibly, you did not come at all, but remembered us in prayer.

Whatever kindness extended in our bereavement is accepted with sincere gratitude and thankfulness. Your kindness and comfort will always remain in our hearts.

Eloise Long Family

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all who sent flowers, cards, food, donations, phone calls, prayers, visits, or expressed their sympathy in any way.

A special thank you is extended to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the ceremonial grounds, and churches for their support in the loss of our loved one.

Le Ann Thompson Mack Family

We would like to thank everyone who sent cards, food, money, and well wishes to us during this time of sadness and loss. Thank you to Muscogee Nation for its support and to anyone who might have said a prayer for our family.

A special thank is offered to Rev. Terry Pittman and the ladies of Salem Baptist Church for the lovely service and dinner.

So much support was offered that we cannot begin to thank everyone enough.

Stephen Minyard Family

BIA

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vidual Indian and tribal trust beneficiaries.

The Indian Trust Management Plan is the result of consultation meetings the Interior Department held this year with tribal leaders and the efforts of the Joint Tribal/DOI Task Force on Trust Reform to find ways of improving the department's management of Indian trust assets.

It is intended that the plan provide the following : 1) dedicating personnel to provide consolidated beneficiary services; 2) increasing the emphasis on tribal contracting and compacting; 3) preserving staff and monetary resources within BIA and OST; 4) improving organization accountability; 5) elevating the profile of Indian economic development and 6) grouping organizational functions more efficiently.

While the BIA's structure will remain largely unchanged, the plan calls for new staffing in the agency's regional offices. All natural resource trust asset management will remain within the BIA, but the management of trust functions at the regional and agency levels would be achieved through the creation of a deputy regional director for trust operations and a deputy regional director for all other BIA services except for those that report directly to the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs.

In addition, a new Office of Self-Governance and Self-Determination will be placed under a new deputy assistant secretary for economic development policy.

Finally, while the OST would retain its oversight responsibilities of fiduciary trust asset management and other authorities, the plan creates a new deputy special trustee for trust accountability to be responsible for trust training, regulatory policy and procedures and a Trust Program Management Center. The center would be centrally located within Indian Country with a staff of up to six trust administrators overseeing trust officers and trust account managers in the field.

The Indian Trust Management Plan is the culmination of the department's meetings with tribal leaders following Secretary Gayle Norton's release in November 2001 of a proposal to improve the department's management of Indian trust assets by consolidating all of the BIA's trust functions into another entity, the Bureau of Indian Trust Asset Management (BITAM), under a new Assistant Secretary for Indian Trust Asset Management.

The Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs has responsibility for fulfilling the department's trust responsibility to American Indian and Alaska Native tribes and individuals, as well as promoting tribal self-determination and economic development. The assistant secretary oversees the BIA, which is responsible for providing services to approximately 1.4 million American Indian and Alaska Natives from the nation's 562 federally recognized tribes.

Claims

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billions for more than a century of mismanagement.

The head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs appeared in a taped interview on Wednesday's edition of "NewsHour with Jim Lehrer." On a segment titled "Broken Trust," the PBS program focused on a six-year-old lawsuit that McCaleb said forced him to retire.

"I have never deceived anyone," he told Lee Hochberg of Oregon Public Television. "I have never perpetrated fraud upon anyone, and neither has [Secretary of Interior] Gale Norton."

More than 300,000 American Indians are part of a class action that seeks an accounting of funds derived from oil, gas and other land-based activity on 11 million acres of land. U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth ordered the accounting in December 1999 but even after a federal appeals court affirmed the landmark ruling, the Department of Interior delayed work for months.

Numerous problems complicate the effort: shoddy and non-existent records, a lack of adequate computer systems and tens of thousands of unresolved land ownership cases.

But McCaleb said there was no evidence to suggest the account holders haven't been paid.

"There's no basis for any of this," he said, responding to claims of billions owed. "I mean, if I were an account holder, I'd say, 'Well, golly, I've got $1,000. Maybe I should have gotten $2,000.'"

He added: "Maybe we've overpaid it $2 billion. I don't think so, but, you know, there's no evidence to the contrary."

McCaleb's statements appear to contradict ones he made earlier this year about the dispute. In a phone interview with Sam Donaldson of ABC News, he said he couldn't "refute" any dollar figure cited by the plaintiffs and said a settlement was the way to go.

"The BIA has never been able to honestly say they could do an accurate historical accounting," he said in February.

To James Kennerly, a Blackfeet Nation tribal member who appeared on the program, there was no question that account holders have been cheated. He said he has received little money from five oil wells that have drilled his family's land since the 1930s.

"Because this oil and gas royalty, look at, three cents! Three cents, eight cents," he said. "That's ridiculous. It's just totally a rip-off."

Bush administration officials unveiled a plan in June to account for more than 500,000 past and present trust accounts. They said it would cost at least $2.4 billion and take 10 years.

Deputy Secretary J. Steven Griles, in testimony to Congress, has also disputed claims of billions owed. He said the government has indeed paid the account holders and settling the case would mean they would be paid twice.

The Individual Indian Money (IIM) trust was initiated in 1887 and the government admits that $13 billion has passed through the system since 1909. None of it has been accounted for.

On January 6, 2003, the Interior has to submit a plan to account for the entire fund. A trial to advance the accounting is set for May.

Also due in January is a plan for the Interior to fulfill its trust obligations to the account holders. The plan must specify the standards by which the accounts will be managed.

Nettv cako Rakko

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After much anticipation, the big night arrives which is usually Christmas Eve. The children are all ushered inside by the deacons and everyone takes a seat. The kids aren't always this cooperative, but they know the excitement that awaits on this particular night. It's usually crowded because Christmas is generally a homecoming for many members who don't get to attend their home church very often as well as relatives and friends. Also in attendance are some of the more traditional ceremonial people who may not ordinarily attend church services, but are warmly invited to the special Christmas services.

Excitement fills the air! Children can't wait to get their gifts and candy, but they know that comes last. First they have to sing and watch others portray biblical characters with striped towels on their heads and bed sheets wrapped around their bodies, all the while glancing at the big pile of presents stacked under the tree in the corner. The tree is decorated not only with lights and garlands, but also socks and colorful handkerchiefs. They know those socks and handkerchiefs are for the visitors who may not receive anything under the tree. Then comes the preacher who, if he is very traditional, may preach for up to an hour or so. If he feels considerate of those who sit fidgeting on hard wooden benches and rope weaved wooden chairs, he may complete his portion in 30 minutes. The congregation then solemnly sings a couple of Mvskoke hymns such as "Cesvs Vlakvtes," or "Perehem Tvlofv." Just when you think your back side can't take another minute, it's over! The children's excitement picks back up as the Christmas committee chairman explains that Santa is somewhere over northwestern Oklahoma, but still on his way (the truth is, he's out at the camp house applying the finishing touches on his costume). The chairman leads the congregation in "Silent Night" in order to buy some time. Then, all of a sudden, rap-rap-rap and the sound of jingling bells! Everyone knows it must be Santa Claus tapping his cane on the walls of the church. The four and five year-olds remember him from last year and immediately move closer to mama or grandma. The two and three year-olds don't remember and sit on mama's lap with a big smile not knowing the shock they are getting ready to experience. The six and seven year-olds, with quivering lips and shaky legs, are going to try to be brave and talk to Santa — just like daddy had instructed.

Then the door opens! It is Santa Claus! "Ho-Ho-Ho! Estonko!" Why everyone knows that Santa speaks every language in the world, including Mvskoke. The six and seven year-olds nervously hold their ground. The four and five year-olds scramble — and the little ones, well, it's too late. They all join one another in a terrified kicking, screaming, and crying chorus as Santa makes his way down the aisle. He stops to test the nerve of the brave ones who look at him with expressionless wide-eyed faces until he passes, then a big smile — more of relief than happiness! Santa then makes his way to the front where the pastor sits. He exchanges a few pleasantries with the pastor and some of the elders. He explains that he has traveled thousands of miles delivering gifts all over the world. For this he wants the congregation to sing another course of "Jingle Bells" and then leads the congregation in his all time favorite "Heleluyv." Following this, Santa bids everyone farewell and "Merry Christmas" as he leaves.

Finally, finally, it's time to pass out the gifts. The chairman announces the names of those who will pass them out and then it starts. "Michelle Fixico!" "Tommy Lee Harjo!" "Larry Joe Yahola!" Everyone's faces immediately light up as their names are called. Within a few minutes, the church turns into a sea of bright red, green, and blue torn and wrinkled wrapping paper. Tonka trucks, Barbie dolls, new sweaters, Corning Ware, and socket wrenches are all unwrapped — probably in one-tenth of the time it took to wrap them. The visitors sit and watch, admiring the gifts as they are opened. When all of the gifts have been distributed, they discover that they haven't been left out either. Gloves, socks, handkerchiefs, scarves spatulas, flashlights, paddle balls, and toy cookware sets have been purchased for just such an

see NETTV CAKO RAKKO..., page 10

Nettv cako Rakko

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occasion.

It's time for the last big activity of the night. Boxes and boxes of stuffed brown paper bags are brought in from the back door. Everyone in attendance, regardless of membership or belief, is given a sack. Each sack contains an apple, an orange, some hard candy (which will probably sit in a bowl in the kitchen until March), some mixed nuts (and where do they get those little acorn looking things that taste so good; the acorns around here don't taste that good), some orange slices, some chocolate drops (which your grandpa has another name for) and the very best thing, peanut brittle. You next hear the sound of cars starting in order to get the heaters warmed up for the trip home. Slowly, the church empties and the Christmas program is over for another year.

This scenario has been played out over and over for at least a 100 years in churches all over the Muscogee Nation. The characters may change and technology may alter the atmosphere, but the spirit of that old-time Christmas will continue for many years to come.

McCaleb

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dian-owned businesses and building new markets for their products and services."

"While I have enjoyed a close working relationship with the department's senior management team and we have undertaken significant initiatives on behalf of our American Indian beneficiaries, the constraints imposed by ever-present litigation have taken their toll. Unfortunately, the litigation has taken first priority in too many activities, thus distracting attention from the other important goals that could provide more long-term benefits for Indian Country. Economic development for American Indians and Alaska Natives deserve full-time attention which is not realistic in the current environment."

After retiring, McCaleb intends to act as a private consultant in the area of tribal economic development.

Council

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firming the renomination of Samuel S. Alexander to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Lewis**; **Nichols**; **Lowe**; **Quiett**; **Cleghorn**; and **Kelley**.

Following the veto message, Second Speaker **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In unfinished business the Council:

• voted unanimously (20-0-0) to remain tabled National Council Act 02-022, authorizing the principal chief to enter into a financing agreement with Bank One to fund construction of an office building in Muskogee; and

• voted unanimously (20-0-0) to remain tabled NCA 02-064, appropriating funds for the payment of interest on a loan with Bank One.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously as amended (20-0-0) TR 02-012, authorizing the principal chief to execute an amendment of the Dec. 1, 1998 "memorandum of agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation, Inc." to eliminate references to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a tribally designated housing entity;

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) TR 02-024, authorizing the principal chief to make application to place certain lands previously purchased by the Nation into trust for the Nation and transferring title in said lands to the United States of America in trust for the Nation;

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) TR 02-025, authorizing the principal chief to request that certain property located in Okmulgee County be placed into trust;

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) TR 02-026, authorizing the principal chief to request that certain property located in Seminole, County be placed into trust;

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) TR 02-027, authorizing the principal chief to request that certain property located in Seminole County be placed into trust;

• killed on the floor unanimously (20-0-0) TR 02-028, supporting an application by the tribal children and family services administration for the tribal youth program grant to improve the juvenile justice system;

• approved (16-4-0) TR 02-032, authorizing the principal chief to execute an agreement with B and B Fireworks for the operation of three temporary fireworks sales facility on tribal land;

voting no were: **Warrington**; **Barnett**; **Fields**; and **Gillespie**;

• approved (15-5-0) TR 02-033, authorizing the principal chief to execute an agreement with Jet Fireworks L.L.C. for the operation of one temporary fireworks sales facility on tribal trust land to benefit the Tulsa Indian Community;

voting no were: **Aaron**; **Barnett**; **Jackson**; **Fields**; and **Gillespie**;

Rep. **Pickering** arrived at the meeting, making attendance at 22 present with three absent;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) TR 02-034, confirming the nomination of **Della Cherry** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Board;

• tabled (12-9-0) National Council Resolution 02-006, adopting the rules of procedures of the National Council;

voting no were: **Pickering**; **Lewis**; **Johnson**; **Lowe**; **Yahola**; **Fields**; **Quiett**; **Cleghorn**; and **Berryhill**;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 02-056, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Services Department Water Quality Program;

• approved as amended (17-4-0) NCA 02-062, assisting a Muscogee (Creek) Nation student nominated YB World Class Sports Organization to participate in the "Maui Football Pigskin Classic;"

voting no were: **Aaron**; **Nichols**; **Fields**; and **Gillespie**;

• approved (14-7-0) NCA 02-070, authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Real Estate Service Department;

voting no were: **Aaron**; **Barnett**; **Watson**; **Golden**; **Peters**; **Bible**; and **Gillespie**;

• approved (20-0-1) NCA 02-071, appropriating funds awarded in fiscal year 2002 by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for continuation of the pre-development study of tribal water rights;

abstaining was **Golden**;

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 02-072, appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of funds for Duck Creek Indian Community for additional improvements associated with its community renovation project;

voting no was **Berryhill**;

•approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 02-073, amending NCA 02-051 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the 28th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival);

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 02-076, authorizing the expenditure of the Reading is Fundamental Award for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program;

• approved (20-0-1) NCA 02-077, authorizing a special appropriation to hire a self-governance coordinator for the remainder of FY 2002;

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Notices

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Published in The Muscogee Nation News,
Volume 31, Issue 11
Case No. G 2002-04

In the matter of the Guardianship of: Matthew Logston

Notice of Hearing

To All interested persons:

Notice is hereby given that a Petition has been filed in the above cited case in which Petitioner Jim Owens seeks to obtain permanent guardianship of the minor child Matthew Logston. Hearing on the Petition has been set for 10:00 a.m. on the 20th day of January, 2003, at the above named court in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Anyone having objection to the granting of the requested relief may file a written protest in the case prior to the date set for hearing. If no written protest is filed, relief will be granted as requested in the Petition.

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Attorney for Petitioner
Lori J. Guevara, Clinical Legal Fellow
University of Tulsa/Muscogee (Creek) Nation Law Clinic
407 South Florence Avenue
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74104
(918) 631-5799
Washington State Bar Association #28732

November District Court filings

Civil Actions:
• In the Matter of: Kendall Ray Whitlow
• In the Matter of: Kyndra Renee Whitlow
• Security Finance vs. Ramona Harjo
• Tulsa Adjustment Bureau vs. John and Ellen Haney

Protective Orders:
• Patricia Lindsay vs. Raymond Yahola
• Karen Umholtz vs. Tim Cleveland
• Karen Umholtz vs. Tim Cleveland
• Karen Umholtz vs. Tim Cleveland

Divorce:
• Natalie Wilson vs. Billy Wilson
• Lena Marshall vs. Famous Marshall
• Nicole Spears vs. Thomas Spears
• Christy Demmitt vs. Brian Looney
• Sherry Billington vs. Jon Arnold

Criminal-misdemeanor:
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Paul Wayne Bruner
—count 1: public intoxication
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Robert Lee Bruner
—count 1: public intoxication
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Waukita Berryhill
—count 1: public intoxication

Criminal-felonies:
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Matthew Gourd
—count 1: possession of illegal drug paraphernalia

Council

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abstaining was **Golden**;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 02-078, amending NCA 01-15 as codified in title VII of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, entitled: "citizenship," related to evidence of lineal descent;

Peters and **Pickering** did not vote;

• approved (19-0-1) NCA 02-079, amending 94-67 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving a continuing ordinance for the FY 1995 comprehensive annual budget);

abstaining was **Gillespie**;

Pickering did not vote;

• approved as amended (16-5-0) NCA 02-081, establishing guidelines for special appropriations and recovery;

voting no were: **Watson**; **Jackson**; **Golden**; **Johnson**; and **Fields**;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 02-083, repealing NCA 89-19, NCA 89-81, NCA 90-32, NCA 92-11, and NCA 95-76 and to redefine the land description for Hanna Indian Community;

• approved unanimously as amended (21-0-0) NCA 02-084, authorizing a supplementary appropriation for burial assistance;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 02-085, amending NCA 01-158 as codified in title IV of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, entitled "burial/cemeteries," related to burial assistance guidelines;

•approved (12-9-0) NCA 02-087, authorizing a special appropriation for the youth organization of Weleetka to participate in an educational work study project at Ocmulgee National Monument in Macon, Ga. in June 2002;

voting no were: **Aaron**; **Warrington**; **Peters**; **Lowe**; **Yahola**; **Bible**; **Quiett**; **Cleghorn**; and **Gillespie**;

• approved (18-3-0) NCA 02-089, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) citizen for the 2002 Native American All-American All-Star game at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan.;

voting no were: **Aaron**; **Fields**; and **Gillespie**;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 02-090, amending NCA 00-174, as amended by NCA 01-43 and NCA 01-136, §315 as codified in title 36, §315 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, entitled "taxation and revenue," related to use of motor vehicle registration revenues;

Bible did not vote;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 02-091, providing new services for the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and appropriating funds for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Services Legal Clinic;

Cleghorn did not vote; and

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 02-092, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the office of the tax commission;

Peters and **Cleghorn** did not vote.

In items for consideration the Council:

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 02-032, appropriating fund for the purchase of real property in Seminole County to be used for economic development purposes;

Peters was excused from the meeting and did not vote; and

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 02-082, a law repealing NCA 94-16, NCA 96-96, NCA 96-87 and NCA 00-75 and establishing Green Corn Ceremonial Assistance Program;

Golden did not vote.

Notices

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the organization. The State of Oklahoma citation reads: "...Whereas, Cyndi Harjo (Gilks) is an outstanding volunteer and her unselfish, untiring contributions to OAACHR goals have contributed to the success of its mission; and Whereas, it is fitting and proper that the State of Oklahoma House of Representatives recognize Cyndi Harjo and express its appreciation for her dedication and commitment to the people of Oklahoma...."

Harjo was also presented with a powwow shawl made by the Bea Poolaw of the Wichita Tribe.

Claremore influenza clinic open

CLAREMORE — Influenza vaccine is available at Claremore Indian Hospital and at other Indian health care facilities for those that are eligible for care.

Yearly influenza vaccine is recommended for: all persons 50 years of age or older; persons greater than six months of age with chronic illness; pregnant women; and persons six months to 18 years of age receiving chronic aspirin therapy. Influenza vaccine is also recommended for healthy children ages six to 23 months of age, household members of high-risk persons, and anyone who wishes to reduce the likelihood of influenza.

The influenza clinic at Claremore Indian Hospital is held from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and will be available through March 2003.

Foot care for diabetics can reduce amputations

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma State Department of Health has joined with the American Podiatric Medical Association to launch "It's What You Don't Feel That Can Hurt You," a foot care awareness campaign to inform consumers about how to prevent and treat diabetes-related complications of the feet.

Diabetes accounts for approximately half of all non-traumatic amputations performed in the U.S. each year. There are more than 1,000 diabetes-related amputations performed in Oklahoma each year with hospital charges alone totaling nearly $30 million.

Many amputations are the result of nerve disease, a serious problem for people with diabetes. Because nerve disease often leads to lost sensation in the feet, people with diabetes feel no pain when they injure a foot or toe. As a result, a minor injury can become infected and, without proper treatment, can lead to amputation.

People with diabetes can reduce their risk of amputation by following a few simple guidelines:

• check bare feet every day for cuts, sores, bumps and red spots;

• have doctor check bare feet at every visit;

• wash feet in warm — not hot — water every day;

• do not soak your feet and remember to dry between toes; and

• cut toenails straight across — use an emery board to smooth sharp edges that could cut the next toe.

"Health care providers nationwide can use the message from this campaign to help people with diabetes lead healthy, active lives and reduce their chances of serious foot-related complications, such as amputation," said State Health Commissioners Dr. Leslie Beitsch.

"Foot ulcers and other foot problems that can lead to amputation are a major cause of serious infection, death and disability for our aging population suffering from diabetes and nerve disease. Educating the public about preventative diabetic foot care is one way we can help reduce the incidence of lower extremity amputations in Oklahoma," Beitsch said.

For more information about diabetes and foot care, contact the OSDH Diabetes Control and Prevention Program at 1 (888) 669-5934; or the American Diabetes Association, Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office at 1 (800) 259-6552; Western Oklahoma Regional Office at 1 (800) 259-6551; or the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation at 1 (800) JDF-CURE.

Social Security launches web page for Natives

WASHINGTON — Recognizing the need for American Indians and Alaska Natives to access timely, accurate information about Social Security, the Social Security Administration has launched a new web page — www.ssa.gov/aian — "Social Security Online for American Indian and Alaska Natives."

The site provides basic Social Security program information on retirement, survivors, disability and supplemental security Income benefits.

In addition to program information, this new site shows how individuals can conduct business with SSA online and information on how individuals and tribes or nations can contact SSA. "American Indian and Alaska Natives" also offers links to the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration on Native Americans and Indian Health Service; the Small Business Administration, Native American Affairs; the Department of Veteran Affairs, Center for Minority Veterans; and Native Web.

Service conserves resources on private lands

WASHINGTON — The Natural Resources Conservation Service is the conservation agency for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and works with American people to conserve natural resources on private and tribal lands. NRCS provides the following services: natural resources assessments; conservation planning assistance; technical assistance for conservation practices; and cost share programs for conservation work.

The USDA NRCS tribal office works in cooperation with conservation districts in Creek, Okmulgee, Okfuskee, McIntosh, Hughes, Seminole, Muskogee, Tulsa, Rogers, Wagoner, and Mayes counties. The USDA-NRCS tribal office is located at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Capital Complex, Human Development Building Room 143. To contact the office call (918) 756-8700, extension 617 Information is also available on the USDA's World Wide Web site: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov or the Oklahoma home page at http://www.ok.nrcs.gow.

The USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and martial status. Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities, who require alternative means for communication of program information — Braille, large print, audiotape, etc. — should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326 W., Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Quilt depicting tribal seal for sale

HALLETT — A 20 year-old quilt depicting the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal seal is available for sell.

The handmade quilt is king size.

For more information, contact Russell Perry at (918) 356-4808.

Mvskoke/Yuce Ohfvtcv

yUdjEha gOb'a gOyU'êdanA

Cokv 1 Enliketv 7/k'asO 1, shaKa 7 Mvskoke Etvlwv Rvfo Rakko/yÔn shên @^nE zA A fa 2002

Maskoke Nettv cako Rakko

Edwin Marshall hotcicat

Nettv'cako Rakko makeyat, Este Hvtke tat "Klesmvs" makakes. Mekosapvlke en netta vcakos'mahat, monkat, netta hvlwos'mahaten oketowes, Cesvs Klist en hecketv nettv (momis "*Tvcako Rakko*" maketv sete hosicceckvs, Mvtat cuko rakko fullv puskakat emoketv tvcako hueraten oketowes). Hvteceskose mekosvpkv Este Cate esohyihocof, nak emvyetv omakateu estemepocasakvtes. Nak etemkv omakis nakemvyetv okvyat, Este Cate tat isten'kerretv enyekcekates. Heromkv maketv hofonof etan emvhakv tomvteto. Cesvs enhecketv, Este Cate em mekosvpkv cuko lilakateu, vrvkkueckv hayet, esvpokaketowes. Vksomkvle, momet, okkalvlke, momet, Okfeskvlke tis, estimv tonomis, hvyomen esvpokaketowes.

Penwv hompetv nettv hoyanof mahen, Cuko vfastvlke, momet en homvh'hotat eten kerrvkket, Nettv'cako Rakko esvpoketvn emetetaketvn vlicecaket omes. Kvmetvlke'n ohmellvkket, Vsoklv Norv neskv tis, eto semvnehicvkv'ranat tis, este yvhikvkv'ranat tis, estit enkapv cate hakv'ranat tis, estit erkenvkv'ranat tis omakat tetakuecaket omes.

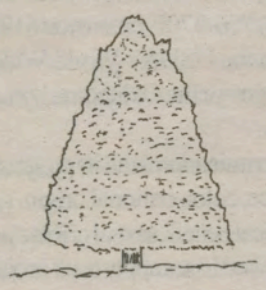
Nak omvlkvt tetaken, netta tat huerihocvte vlakof, este omvlkvt (hopuetake vtekosekot) oren esfeksomecetis omet fulles. Yafkat emvliceckv hakof, hopuetake tat tekvnvlke emapohicoset cuko ofvn aceyeces (tekvnvlke empefatketv yacvke tomvte tis). Mekosvpkv Cuko tat fackoset liken, este hecvkeskate sulket roricen vpokakes. Cuko vtekkv hopiye vpokakat resyicen, cuko pericvlke, Cuko Rvkko fullv tis, empohattvk hoyvte apokakes.

Heyv elecv nak hotce ocat, cokvtvlvme nake etvkv onvkv hotcakat, emvpvlwosis omes

GOhânA hÂnu Enu h@^ s'@^chEnA hÔn hÔn lA ab@^chE gOhânA Enu yU shê@ nE O k'un ne' hÔn yU Ônda yU shên @ nE g@T'A lA E hA chE nA ne thlA yU Ôn da k'ala ne hÊn gwa hÔn jÊn. s@^n chE sO lA hAg@ yU shên @ nE g@T'A lA hÊn ha Pickett Chapel. DÂ fa k'a Ta ya gOp@^nE yU kw@^n thl@^, tO'O ha, gOt@shE nA, gO dE dE nA, dÔnTa gA Ôn wa nA hEba gE ûn nA h@ hûn ga wân. W@ Esht@^@t'A g@^ kOta g@ bEf@ dawE gA'A hA sAdO nu hA hEndA k'a dAkE Ok'a wa nE jÊn tsO tsO dE gûn ha d@^y@bO@T'E T'E y@bO@T'E Pa hE ha k'Ôn sO da had@^ a chE lA dE k'Ôn wa.

Yuce hokte, Maggie Cumsey Marsey, Yuce enponakvn hopuetaken *bingo* sahfackakes./ "hÔtOtO zOdE wAthla Owa hu^n k'asOsO s'E@^ha gO'nusha hEt'yu^n gOg@^nE dAkE wA'na sha hEt'yu^n wA sha dA bOshE, zEnE gA wAnu wA'na sha nA t'E^lE ha adEzA k'asO she^ wA'na sha ha hEt'yu^n wAha gOg@^nE wA'nu sha hE @ dEzA hA Owa gA E thl@^ hE^ ndA zO dEda Od@^

Emponakv enhvteceskv/ho'wAdAnA hOtO'ê



vcena
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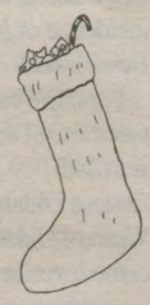


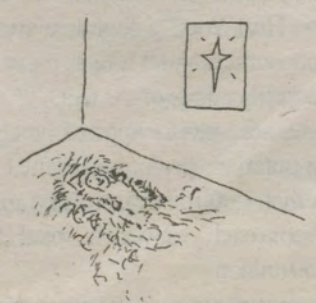
svhocacka cvpko
t'O k'a dEwE

estv cako rakko
wada yazA yaka

kolaswv
'yû

hvlwe este
gOw@^nE

kerrvlke
gOla yU Ôn da nA wAyU Ôndâ l@^



Cesvs hopuewoce
gO'nE Jesus gOg@^nE wAthl@^nE